

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR + BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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This Issue in Brief

Workers' experiences during first phase of reconversion.

During the winter of 1945-46 former war workers were earning an average of 31 percent less than they had in the spring of 1945, as there had been a definite shift toward the lower-wage industries. This was disclosed by a follow-up study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Their shift from wartime to peacetime industries was also accompanied by geographical dispersion. Page 707.

Work stoppages caused by labor-management disputes in 1945.

In 1945 work stoppages resulting from disputes between employers and employees reached a total of 4,750, involving about 3½ million workers and resulting in 38 million man-days' idleness. The number of workers involved and their idleness were the largest in volume since 1919, following the end of World War I, lost time averaging 11 days per worker. Three-fourths of the year's total idleness occurred after VJ-day, with stoppages becoming bigger, longer, and more stubborn of solution. Forty-two stoppages were large-scale, including more than 10,000 workers each. A third of the stoppages were settled directly by the companies and the unions. Under the War Labor Disputes Act, the National Labor Relations Board conducted 1,445 strike ballots, with only 213 work stoppages resulting (4.5 percent of the year's total). Page 718.

Progress of State minimum-wage legislation, 1943-45.

The end of the war has brought renewed importance to the establishment of minimum-wage rates, particularly in service industries, which, for the most part, are not covered under the Fair Labor Standards Act. No new minimum-wage laws were enacted during the 3-year period, January 1943 to December 1945. Some amendments were adopted, however, which have considerable significance from the standpoint of minimum-wage progress and probable future developments in this field. These raised statutory rates for women in two States, and extended coverage to men in two States. A summary account of legislative and wage-board activity for the 3-year period is presented on page 736.

Employment situation in Latin America.

There was no serious over-all decline in employment in Latin America after the end of World War II. In Colombia and Ecuador the situation was mixed, with unemployment for workers of some types and shortages of workers in other pursuits. Reports from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Mexico showed little reconversion unemployment; the job situation showed little change in Costa Rica and Venezuela. In Peru there were reports of labor shortages. In Brazil there was some decline in industrial employment late in 1944 and early in 1945. Although there was a demand for workers in the country, those who had been working in industry were hesitant to go to work in agricultural or pastoral areas because of the lower wage levels. The recession was short, however, and recent reports indicate that job openings exceed the number of persons seeking work. Page 741.

Wartime railroad employment.

In 1944 class I steam railroads reached an all-time high in volume of freight and passenger traffic handled. Neither the volume of employment nor the carriers' physical facilities increased correspondingly, however. From July 1940 to September 1945 the average number of employees on these roads rose only 35 percent, with increases in the various States ranging from 7.8 percent in Wisconsin to 101.6 in Arizona. Page 753.

Nonfarm placements by U. S. Employment Service in 1945.

Nonagricultural jobs filled by the U. S. Employment Service in 1945 numbered 9.8 million—a decline of a seventh from the wartime peak of 11.4 million in 1944. More than half of the total placements were made in manufacturing industries. Unskilled work (5.2 million positions) predominated. The placements of nonwhite workers (1.9 million) represented a smaller proportional decrease in number from the previous year than those of white referents. Openings filled by women declined by 842,000. Veteran placements reached 1.2 million; those for the handicapped approximated the number for 1944. Page 755.

Wage structure of electroplating and polishing industry, January 1945.

Straight-time hourly earnings of plant workers employed by job electroplaters averaged 88 cents in January 1945. Men averaged 94 cents and women 70 cents an hour. A twelfth of the men and a third of the women earned less than 65 cents an hour. In the two occupations in which women were employed in significant numbers—platers and platers' helpers—average hourly earnings for the women were 85 cents and 68 cents, respectively, or 15 and 13 percent below the earnings of men in these occupations, \$1.00 and 78 cents. Other wage data and information on wage practices in the industry are given in the article on page 767.

Price trends in foreign countries since VE-day.

Since VE-day, price controls have been continued with few present or planned relaxations in almost all of the 26 foreign countries for which data are available. Price levels in British and western European countries have shown little or no change, while a general upward trend has occurred in most Latin American countries, in the Middle East, and in southern and eastern Europe. Since July 1945, price increases have continued in China but less rapidly than during the earlier months of the year. In Japan measures were taken to combat inflation in late February and early March. Page 777.

CURRENT LABOR STATISTICS

V

Current Statistics of Labor Interest in Selected Periods ¹

[Available in reprint form]

Item	Unit or base period	1946			1945	1939: Average for year
		March	Febru- ary	Janu- ary	March	
<i>Employment and unemployment</i>						
Civilian labor force (BC): Total.....	Thousands.....	55,660	54,340	53,710	² 51,660	³ 54,230
Male.....	do.....	39,370	38,340	37,550	² 33,720	³ 40,950
Female.....	do.....	16,290	16,000	16,160	² 17,940	³ 13,280
Employed ⁴	do.....	52,950	51,690	51,420	² 50,830	³ 46,930
Male.....	do.....	37,170	36,200	35,790	² 33,230	³ 35,600
Female.....	do.....	15,780	15,490	15,630	² 17,600	³ 11,330
Nonagricultural.....	do.....	45,370	44,700	44,660	² 43,540	³ 37,430
Agricultural.....	do.....	7,580	6,990	6,760	² 7,290	³ 9,500
Unemployed.....	do.....	2,710	2,650	2,290	² 830	³ 7,300
Civilian employment in nonagricultural establishments: Total ⁴	do.....	35,929	35,241	35,818	38,062	30,353
Manufacturing.....	do.....	11,720	11,297	12,038	15,368	10,078
Mining.....	do.....	791	808	810	796	854
Construction ⁵	do.....	1,328	1,251	1,132	636	1,753
Transportation and public utilities.....	do.....	3,932	3,905	3,896	3,788	2,912
Trade.....	do.....	7,603	7,502	7,485	7,084	6,618
Finance, service, and miscellaneous.....	do.....	5,062	5,031	4,984	4,394	4,160
Federal, State, and local government, excluding Federal force-account construction.....	do.....	5,493	5,447	5,473	5,996	3,988
Military personnel.....	do.....	4,973	5,952	7,048	12,034	362
Production-worker employment:						
Manufacturing.....	do.....	10,407	9,983	10,655	13,601	8,192
Bituminous-coal mining.....	do.....	341	341	338	334	371
Class I steam railroads, including salaried employees (ICC).....	do.....	1,367	1,365	1,393	1,423	988
Hired farm workers (BAE).....	do.....	1,489	1,424	1,320	1,520	⁶ 1,875
<i>Hours and earnings</i>						
Average weekly hours:						
Manufacturing.....	Hours.....		40.5	41.0	⁷ 45.4	37.7
Bituminous-coal mining.....	do.....		45.0	43.3	⁷ 45.1	27.1
Retail trade.....	do.....		40.5	40.3	⁷ 39.7	43.0
Building construction (private).....	do.....	37.5	37.3	37.7	40.0	32.6
Average weekly earnings:						
Manufacturing.....	do.....		\$40.60	\$41.14	⁷ \$47.37	\$23.86
Bituminous-coal mining.....			\$57.18	\$54.23	⁷ \$53.89	\$23.88
Retail trade.....			\$30.77	\$30.54	⁷ \$27.32	\$21.17
Building construction (private).....		\$52.87	\$53.04	\$52.89	\$54.49	\$30.39
Average hourly earnings:						
Manufacturing.....			\$1.002	\$1.003	⁷ \$1.043	\$0.633
Bituminous-coal mining.....			\$1.270	\$1.262	⁷ \$1.190	\$0.886
Retail trade.....			\$0.837	\$0.826	⁷ \$0.756	\$0.536
Building construction (private).....		\$1.411	\$1.422	\$1.402	\$1.363	\$0.933
Average straight-time hourly earnings in manufacturing, using—						
Current employment by industry.....			\$0.967	\$0.966	⁷ \$0.968	\$0.622
Employment by industry as of January 1941.....			\$0.982	\$0.968	⁷ \$0.918	\$0.640
Quarterly farm wage rate, per day without board (BAE).....		⁸ \$4.36		\$4.40	⁸ \$4.12	⁸ \$1.53
<i>Industrial injuries and labor turn-over</i>						
Industrial injuries in manufacturing per million man-hours worked.....				⁹ 17.0	¹⁰ 15.9	15.4
Labor turn-over per 100 employees in manufacturing:						
Total separations.....		6.6	6.3	6.8	6.8	¹¹ 3.1
Quits.....		4.2	3.9	4.3	5.0	¹¹ 0.8
Lay-offs.....		1.8	1.7	1.8	0.7	¹¹ 2.2
Total accessions.....		7.0	6.8	8.5	4.9	¹¹ 3.3
<i>Labor-management disputes</i>						
Work stoppages beginning in month:						
Number.....		385	260	325	380	218
Number of workers involved.....	Thousands.....	130	130	1,400	197	98
All work stoppages during month:						
Number of man-days idle.....	do.....	14,000	21,500	19,200	775	1,484
Man-days idle as percent of available working time.....		2.42	3.94	3.13	0.10	0.28

See footnotes at end of table.

Current Statistics of Labor Interest in Selected Periods ¹—Continued

Item	Unit or base period	1946			1945	1939: Average for year
		March	February	January	March	
<i>Prices</i>						
Consumers' price index (moderate income families in large cities): All items.....	1935-39=100.....	130.2	129.6	129.9	126.8	99.4
Food.....	1935-39=100.....	140.1	139.6	141.0	135.9	95.2
Clothing.....	1935-39=100.....	153.1	150.5	149.5	143.7	100.5
Rent.....	1935-39=100.....	108.4	-----	-----	108.3	104.3
Fuel, electricity, and ice.....	1935-39=100.....	110.5	111.0	110.8	110.0	99.0
Housefurnishings.....	1935-39=100.....	150.2	149.7	148.5	144.5	101.3
Miscellaneous.....	1935-39=100.....	125.9	125.6	125.2	123.6	100.7
Retail food price index (large cities):						
All foods.....	1935-39=100.....	140.1	139.6	141.0	135.9	95.2
Cereals and bakery products.....	1935-39=100.....	110.3	109.8	109.4	108.7	94.5
Meats.....	1935-39=100.....	131.3	131.3	131.4	130.8	96.6
Dairy products.....	1935-39=100.....	137.0	136.6	136.4	133.5	95.9
Eggs.....	1935-39=100.....	139.0	144.2	172.4	140.7	91.0
Fruits and vegetables.....	1935-39=100.....	183.4	181.1	180.8	169.5	94.5
Beverages.....	1935-39=100.....	124.9	124.9	124.9	124.5	95.5
Fats and oils.....	1935-39=100.....	125.9	125.4	125.5	123.7	87.7
Sugar and sweets.....	1935-39=100.....	132.4	126.9	126.5	126.5	100.6
Wholesale price index: All commodities.....	1926=100.....	108.9	107.7	107.1	105.3	77.1
All commodities other than farm products.....	1926=100.....	103.4	102.5	101.9	100.4	79.5
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	1926=100.....	102.2	101.3	100.8	99.2	81.3
Farm products.....	1926=100.....	133.4	130.8	129.9	127.2	65.3
Foods.....	1926=100.....	109.4	107.8	107.3	104.6	70.4
<i>National income and expenditures</i>						
National income payments (BFDC).....	Millions.....	\$13,086	\$12,068	\$13,047	\$13,686	* \$5,809
Consumer expenditures for goods and services (BFDC).....	do.....	¹¹ \$27,600	-----	-----	¹¹ \$24,684	¹¹ \$14,256
Retail sales (BFDC).....	do.....	\$7,192	\$6,208	\$6,440	\$6,322	* \$3,379
<i>Production</i>						
Industrial production index, unadjusted (FR): Total.....	1935-39=100.....	165	149	156	232	109
Manufactures.....	1935-39=100.....	171	152	161	249	109
Minerals.....	1935-39=100.....	131	134	133	136	106
Bituminous coal (BM).....	Thousands of short tons.....	56,800	49,960	54,100	52,450	32,905
Car loadings index, unadjusted (FR).....	1935-39=100.....	132	119	123	136	101
Electric energy (FPC): Total.....	Millions of kw.-hrs.....	21,657	19,449	22,163	23,930	(¹²)
Utilities (production for public use).....	do.....	17,788	16,193	18,403	19,526	* 10,324
Industrial establishments.....	do.....	3,869	3,256	3,760	4,404	(¹²)
<i>Construction</i>						
Construction expenditures.....	Millions.....	\$737	\$637	\$493	\$376	* \$454
Value of urban building construction started.....	do.....	\$734	\$360	\$306	\$113	(¹²)
New nonfarm family-dwelling units.....		81,500	47,100	42,500	13,200	* 42,900

¹ Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics unless otherwise indicated. Abbreviations used: BC (Bureau of the Census); ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission); BAE (Bureau of Agricultural Economics); BFDC (Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce); FR (Federal Reserve); BM (Bureau of Mines); FPC (Federal Power Commission). Most of the current figures are preliminary.

² Not comparable with January, February, and March 1946 figures because of a change adopted by the Bureau of the Census in July 1945 in sampling methods. (See Monthly Report on the Labor Force, September 1945.) Estimates for months prior to July 1945 are being revised.

³ 10-month average—March to December 1940. (See footnote 2.)

⁴ Excludes employees on public emergency work, these being included in unemployed civilian labor force. Civilian employment in nonagricultural establishments differs from employment in civilian labor force mainly because of the inclusion in the latter of such groups as self-employed and domestic and casual workers.

⁵ Includes workers employed by construction contractors and Federal force-account workers (nonmaintenance construction workers employed directly by the Federal Government). Other force-account non-maintenance construction employment is included under manufacturing and the other groups.

⁶ March.

⁷ February.

⁸ April.

⁹ December 1945.

¹⁰ December 1944.

¹¹ First quarter.

¹² Not available.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW

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Workers' Experiences During First Phase of Reconversion¹

Summary

IN COMMUNITIES throughout the country reconversion to peacetime activity moved ahead after VJ-day but at different speeds and with different effects on the men and women who had been employed during the war. In the spring of 1945, while war production was still at a high level, the Bureau of Labor Statistics began a study of the work and wage experiences of workers in war industries. Early in the winter of 1945-46 the same workers were resurveyed for the purpose of determining what changes had occurred in their jobs, wages, location, and other conditions bearing on their economic status.

Based on the reports of 3,600 workers, it was found that:

A fourth of the war workers were unemployed in the winter of 1945-46; a considerably higher proportion of women than of men were jobless and more older than younger workers.

Those who had jobs in the winter of 1945-46 were earning substantially less than in war work but as much as the average factory wage earner.

In most cases, wages during the first phase of reconversion were inadequate for the maintenance of living standards permitted by earnings in the year preceding the Pearl Harbor attack.

More than a quarter of the women in war plants in the spring of 1945 had left the labor market by the winter of 1945-46; most of them are housewives.

Considerable geographical mobility was indicated; a fourth of the war workers had moved out of their wartime communities, less than half of them back to where they had lived in January 1941. In contrast, workers who had been employed in essentially nonwar establishments during the spring of 1945 were in large part still employed in the same establishments.

Added to the geographical reshuffling of workers was a redistribution along industrial and occupational lines. In the winter of 1945-46 the distribution of workers among industries no longer resembled the wartime pattern, and—of greater importance—the prewar pattern

¹ The data summarized here were collected and tabulated under the supervision of the Bureau's Regional Wage Analysts. Nathan Weinberg of the Wage Analysis Branch prepared this article. More detailed reports for several of the individual study units discussed here will be issued later, as separate reports.

had not been reestablished. The same was true with respect to the distribution of workers among occupational groups.

The flow of war workers tended to be in the direction of lower-wage industries and lower-wage jobs. Although the reduced earnings reported in the winter of 1945-46 were largely the result of a decline in hours worked, with consequent loss of overtime and other premium pay as well as downgrading, the redistribution of workers, occupationally and industrially, undoubtedly contributed to the diminution in wage income.

TABLE 1.—*Employment Status, Earnings, and Migrations of War and Nonwar Workers, by Sex*

Item	War workers		Nonwar workers	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Percentage distribution				
Employment status:				
Employed.....	74	34	93	91
By same employer as in spring 1945 ¹	18	5	73	82
By different employer from spring 1945.....	48	28	17	9
Self-employed.....	8	1	3	—
Unemployed and seeking work.....	20	37	5	4
Not seeking work ²	6	29	2	5
Total.....	100	100	100	100
Average weekly earnings: ³				
1941 ⁴	\$38.15	\$21.65	\$46.65	\$23.95
Spring 1945.....	68.60	53.75	63.55	40.65
Winter 1945-46.....	47.70	34.40	58.65	37.95
Percent of workers reporting				
Migrations between spring 1945 and winter 1945-46:				
No migrations.....	73	73	91	99
Migration ⁵	27	27	9	1
Back to 1941 residence.....	13	10	1	(⁶)
To community different from January 1941 residence.....	14	17	8	1
Total.....	100	100	100	100

¹ A change from one plant to another operated by the same company was considered a change of employer.

² Includes men in armed forces.

³ Includes wage and salary earnings only. Earnings data for spring 1945 and winter 1945-46 are for identical workers. Data for 1941 are for a smaller number of individuals since not all received or reported wages or salaries for 1941.

⁴ Based on earliest weekly earnings figure reported by each individual for year 1941.

⁵ Includes workers with whom no direct contact was made but for whom a new address was obtained outside the community in which they were living when first interviewed in the spring of 1945.

⁶ Less than one-half of 1 percent.

Background and Scope of Study

In the spring of 1945, representatives of the Bureau of Labor Statistics interviewed 5,100 workers to lay the foundation for a recurrent study of the experiences of workers in the transition from war to peace. The workers were grouped in 24 individual projects or study units, each representing an industry or a craft in a given community or area, and selected primarily with a view to the impact of the war's end.

For purposes of the analysis, the aircraft, shipbuilding, and ordnance groups were considered as war-industry study units and all the others as nonwar. As will appear, however, the New England small-arms

group² and the Mountain States metal-mining group have some of the characteristics of the war units. The rate of departure from the New England small-arms group, for instance, was greater than that of the shipyard workers surveyed in Tacoma, Wash.

Workers in 21³ of the original 24 groups were resurveyed by mail or personal interview during December 1945 and the first 2 months of 1946. The 21 groups studied were as follows:⁴

War industry:

Aircraft—Los Angeles, Calif., Wichita, Kans., and Willow Run, Mich.

Aircraft parts—St. Paul, Minn.

Ordnance—Houston, Tex. and Mead, Nebr.

Shipbuilding—Houston, Tex., Mobile, Ala., Tacoma and Vancouver, Wash., and Wilmington, Del.

Nonwar industry:

Carpenters, building trades—San Francisco, Calif.

Textile spinners and weavers—Fall River, Mass., and Lewiston, Maine.

Textile loom fixers—Charlotte, N. C.

Printing pressmen—Chicago, Ill.

Metal mining—Mountain States (Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico).

Molders and coremakers—Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Dayton, Ohio.

Compositors—St. Louis, Mo.

Sewing-machine operators on women's apparel—Cleveland, Ohio.

Small arms—New Haven and Hartford, Conn.

Steel—Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tool and die makers—Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio.

Within the limits imposed by the sample, statistical generalization is appropriate for the entire worker groups represented by the individual study units. The figures for all the war and all the nonwar groups were combined without any attempt at selective weighting. They may, therefore, be accepted as indicating the direction, though not necessarily the magnitude, of the changes affecting workers at large during the reconversion period.

The war-industry group, as established in the spring of 1945, consisted of 2,522 workers and the nonwar group of 2,010⁵. Of these, 1,998 and 1,591, respectively, were reached during the resurvey. Seven had died in the interval; the remainder either did not return mail questionnaires or could not be located or reached for interview during the time allotted for the resurvey.

Extent of Employment

Twenty-four percent of the former war workers studied were unemployed and seeking work in the winter of 1945-46. Another 11 percent were neither working nor seeking work. Only 15 percent were still with the same employers⁶ for whom they had been working when first interviewed. More than two-fifths (43 percent) were working for different employers, and the remaining 7 percent were self-employed.

² This unit was included with the nonwar groups because the sample of workers was drawn from companies normally manufacturing small arms as a peacetime product, as well as from another company, a prewar producer of business machines. The latter was expected to reconvert.

³ Two of the 24 groups not resurveyed included East and West Coast merchant seamen. The third consisted of workers drawn from a Dallas, Tex., aircraft plant.

⁴ Except where otherwise specifically noted, the study units cover representative groups of all plant employees.

⁵ Exclusive of about 600 workers in the projects not resurveyed.

⁶ A change from one plant to another operated by the same company was considered a change of employer.

Among the nonwar workers, the situation was markedly different. Less than 5 percent were unemployed and less than 3 percent had withdrawn from the labor market, and a little more than 2 percent had become self-employed. Over three-fourths were still working for their wartime employers. The relative stability of employment among this group is attributable not only to their employment in peacetime industries but also to the predominance among them of skilled workmen who even under unfavorable business conditions, tend to have greater job security.

Unemployment among ex-war workers varied widely from group to group though, in all cases, it was substantially greater than the 5 percent of the nonagricultural labor force estimated by the Bureau of the Census to have been unemployed in January 1946. Among the groups studied, unemployment struck with greatest severity at the Mobile shipyard workers, of whom 34 percent were seeking work in the winter of 1945-46. Among the St. Paul propeller workers, however, less than 18 percent were unemployed.

There was no apparent relationship between the severity of unemployment and the regional location of the war plants in which the workers had been employed. Among the northwest shipyard workers 28 percent of those who had worked in Vancouver were without jobs and seeking work, compared with 13 percent of those drawn from a Tacoma shipyard. In the South, 23 percent of the Houston shipyard workers were unemployed; in Mobile the proportion was 34 percent.

Unemployment was greatest among workers whose employment had been in communities like Mobile, Mead (Nebr.), and Wichita, which were virtually dependent during the war on one industry. The lesser extent of unemployment among aircraft workers in Los Angeles and St. Paul, and among ordnance and shipbuilding workers in Houston, reflect, in part, the greater capacity of these more diversified areas to absorb the laid-off wartime workers.

Involuntary unemployment fell most heavily on the older workers; a third of the ex-war workers aged 45 and over were unemployed, compared with only a fifth of those under 45. A third of the older white men were unable to find work, as contrasted with only about a seventh of the younger group. Among white women and the small group of Negroes age was somewhat of a handicap to reemployment. Of the white women 42 percent were unemployed in the older group, compared with 35 percent of those under 45 years of age. In varying degrees the relationship between age and extent of unemployment was reflected in all the study units.

In general, Negroes in the war-industry units studied, fared about as well as whites in getting new jobs or in holding their old ones.⁷ Of those still in the labor market, 75 percent of the Negroes and 73 percent of the whites were employed in the winter of 1945-46. The proportion of self-employed whites (7 percent) was much greater than the proportion of Negroes (2 percent).

The proportion of unemployed among women (37 percent) was about twice as great as among men (20 percent). However, because considerably more women than men had left the labor market, the

⁷Because only 179 Negroes were included in the sample studied, the findings reported here cannot be considered typical of the reconversion experience of Negroes generally.

proportion of unemployed among women still in the labor force was 52 percent, compared with 21 percent for men. Late entrance into the labor market and the resultant handicap in accumulating seniority explains why three times as large a proportion of men as women were still working for their wartime employers.

At the time of the resurvey only 34 percent of the women were gainfully employed, as against 74 percent of the men. Withdrawal from the labor market was the major factor. More than a fourth (28 percent) of the women but only 6 percent of the men were neither working nor seeking work; most of the men were in the armed services. Of the 133 women who had left the labor market, 103 or almost four-fifths had become housewives; most of these women had entered the labor market for the "duration" only. A few young men and women had returned to school, several older men had retired and others were not looking for work because of illness or unspecified "personal" reasons. The proportion of whites who had withdrawn from the labor market was twice that of Negroes.

Opportunities for continued employment with the companies that operated the war plants were meager. Two-fifths of the Northwest shipbuilders and a third of the Los Angeles aircraft workers were still with the plants that had employed them in the spring of 1945. The Houston shipyards still employed 21 percent, the Mobile yards 12 percent, and the Wichita aircraft plants 10 percent. In Wilmington only 5 of 155 workers reporting still held jobs in the shipyard. The remaining war plants studied had ceased operations and the few workers who remained acted as caretakers.

The Willow Run workers suffered less dislocation than most. Of the 121 men employed at the time of the resurvey, 58, or 48 percent, had been able to shift to other plants operated by the Ford Motor Co.⁸

As already noted, job displacement was considerably greater among the war than among the nonwar workers studied. Five times as many nonwar workers were still in the same plant as in the spring of 1945; the proportion of unemployment was only a fifth as great as among war workers. Most of the nonwar study units showed even greater stability of employment than is indicated by the over-all figures (75 percent with the same employer and 5 percent unemployed for all the nonwar groups combined). In this relatively stable group the greater part of both separations and unemployment was accounted for by the Connecticut small-arms unit, representing plants which experienced great wartime expansion, and by the Mountain States metal-mining unit.

Industry Shifts

With war production over, it was to be expected that in the winter of 1945-46 the distribution of workers among industries would differ sharply from that of the war years. Only 52 percent of those gainfully employed at the time of the resurvey were in manufacturing, though all had been engaged in factory work in the spring of 1945. Of greater interest was the finding that the pattern of distribution

⁸ The high proportion able to shift is probably not representative of the experience of all former Willow Run workers. The original survey at Willow Run was made after lay-offs were well under way and those who remained were the longest-service employees, many of whom had retained seniority after transferring to Willow Run from other Ford plants.

was still far removed from that of the prewar years. In contrast with the 52 percent still attached to manufacturing, only 35 percent of the workers normally in the labor market had reported manufacturing as their usual field of industry.⁹

The spring-to-winter drift away from manufacturing was apparent in all the study units. Among the workers from the Mead ordnance plant, which was situated in the midst of an agricultural area, only 16 percent had continued in factory work. At the other extreme were the workers of the Willow Run plant, 67 percent of whom were still in manufacturing. The Northwest shipbuilders and the Los Angeles aircraft workers, each had 65 percent continuing in factory work. These last three groups had suffered less dislocation than any of the other war units, because many of the workers continued to work for the same companies.

The proportion of men and women, whites and Negroes, who were employed during the resurvey and had remained in manufacturing industry was remarkably uniform. Fifty-two percent of both sexes were still employed in factories; the ratio for whites of both sexes was 53 percent and that for Negroes 48 percent. Because of the heavier unemployment and larger labor-market withdrawals among the women, however, only 18 percent of the total resurveyed were in manufacturing employment as compared to 39 percent of the men.

There was an apparent absence of any substantial back-to-the-land movement. When first interviewed, 14 percent of the ex-war workers had reported agriculture as their usual industry. At the time of the resurvey, only 4 percent of those gainfully occupied were engaged in farming. Most of those found on farms had been farmers before the war.

Three explanations for the limited return to farming may be suggested. First, the farmers who went into the war plants came largely from the marginal group who were unable to extract a good living from their land even under favorable wartime conditions. Secondly, it is probable that the return to the land had not yet been fully realized, because major war-plant lay-offs did not occur until the late summer and early fall of 1945. With the coming of spring, some of the workers may have returned home in time to plant next year's crops. Finally, it is possible that among those not reached for resurvey were individuals who had returned to farming.

Mining also lost substantially to other industries. Almost 3 percent of the workers had been miners before taking on war work, but only 1 percent had returned to mining at the time of the resurvey. Construction, the service industries, transportation and other public utilities also employed relatively fewer workers in the winter of 1945-46 than before the war. Losses in these industries, however, were considerably smaller than in agriculture and mining.

The new pattern of employment by industry found during the first phase of reconversion involved a much greater reshuffling of individual workers than is suggested by the total figures, because, to some extent, movements of individuals across industry lines were compensatory.

⁹ By "usual industry" is meant the industry in which an individual had his longest period of employment. However, if he was employed for relatively long periods in more than one industry, the one in which he was most recently employed was considered his usual industry.

Workers in the nonwar industries generally remained at their jobs and, at least for the time being, did not have to shift to new fields. The exceptions, relatively few in number, involved mainly workers employed during wartime expansion who were dropped when contraction began. Such was the case in the Connecticut small-arms group.

Occupational Shifts

In the winter of 1945-46 the occupational distribution was in sharp contrast to the wartime pattern and substantially different from that of the prewar years.¹⁰ Reflecting the increase of employment in manufacturing, the proportion engaged as craftsmen and manual workers increased from 53 to 62 percent between January 1941 and the time of the resurvey. Within this group, there appears to have been a redistribution of workers with respect to skills. Before the war, the skilled, semiskilled, and unskilled accounted for 45, 39, and 16 percent, respectively, of those who worked with their hands in nonagricultural activities. The corresponding percentages at the time of the resurvey were 43, 34, and 23.

This was not entirely the consequence of the inability of ex-war workers to find new jobs at their prewar skill levels, though there was some evidence of that. To a more important degree the changes were caused by the entrance of new individuals as craftsmen and manual workers and by the exodus of some who were in this group before the war.

Except for manual work, the only occupational category which reclaimed from the wartime labor pool relatively more workers than it had put in was the groups of proprietors, managers, and officials. This group accounted for 8 percent of the workers at the time of the resurvey, as compared to 6 percent before the war. The proportion not in the labor market also increased from 7 to 11 percent.

Aside from farming, in which 3 percent were employed in the winter of 1945-46, as compared to 13 percent before the war, the largest declines were in the professions (from 4 percent prewar to 2 percent) and in the white-collar occupations (from 12 to 9 percent). During this first phase of reconversion there seems to have been a strong resistance to returning to traditionally low-paid clerical and sales jobs. Service occupations, similarly, showed a drop, though a small one.

In the nonwar groups, most of the workers remained at the same jobs they had held during the war and in the period immediately preceding the war. In a few of these study units, however, the end of the war was followed by a reduction in employment; some who had been employed relatively recently were laid off and downgraded.

Despite the fact that many of the industry and occupational changes made by ex-war workers were compensatory, there was a noticeable tendency for workers to move toward lower-wage industries and lower-wage occupations. Income opportunities were, therefore, less attractive in the winter of 1945-46 than during the war.

¹⁰ The discussion of occupational changes refers only to workers with prewar employment experience. Except where otherwise noted, percentages for the winter 1945-46 are computed on a base excluding the unemployed and those in the armed forces.

Wages of Workers

The end of the war meant reduced earnings for most of the workers surveyed and, for many, living standards lower than before the war. All the war-industry groups ¹¹ showed sharp declines in average weekly earnings between the spring of 1945 and the winter of 1945-46. In the nonwar groups, reductions tended to be less severe and workers in some of the units averaged more per week when resurveyed than during the spring of 1945.

The ex-war workers who were employed in the winter of 1945-46 averaged \$46.01 per week, or 31 percent less than in the spring of 1945.¹² Those who had been employed in 1941 earned \$47.13 per week when resurveyed, or 27 percent more than in 1941. Meanwhile, however, prices of living essentials had risen even more, and the tax collector had dipped more deeply into their pay envelopes.

Between the two surveys, the decline in the earnings of the war workers ranged from 23 percent for the Los Angeles aircraft workers to 41 percent for the St. Paul propeller makers.

On the average, workers who remained in the war plants showed a decline of 26 percent in weekly earnings. Those who found employment elsewhere had an average decrease of 33 percent. A decrease, though not necessarily of the magnitude found in this survey, was to be expected, since in the recruitment of workers for war plants an attractive wage had to be offered.

In the nonwar groups, the average drop in weekly earnings between the two surveys was 10 percent. Only the small-arms workers, with a

TABLE 2.—Average Weekly Earnings of Identical Workers, by Study Group, Spring of 1945 and Winter of 1945-46

Study group	Number of workers	Average weekly earnings		Percent of change
		Spring of 1945	Winter of 1945-46	
All war-industry study groups ¹	919	\$66.70	\$46.01	-31
Aircraft and parts:.....				
Los Angeles.....	141	60.47	46.65	-23
St. Paul.....	102	70.31	41.61	-41
Wichita.....	63	67.57	40.26	-40
Ordnance:.....				
Houston.....	88	80.73	52.40	-35
Mead.....	40	51.79	35.19	-32
Shipbuilding:.....				
Houston.....	107	69.79	50.42	-28
Mobile.....	86	58.50	37.56	-36
Northwest.....	211	68.83	50.98	-26
Wilmington.....	81	63.53	43.49	-32
All nonwar-industry study groups.....	1,374	59.96	54.29	-10
Carpenters, San Francisco.....	36	82.31	67.91	-18
Compositors, St. Louis.....	75	59.74	65.11	+9
Metal mining, Mountain States.....	348	56.55	53.68	-5
Molders and coremakers, Ohio.....	75	69.27	60.74	-12
Printing pressmen, Chicago.....	60	101.34	86.13	-15
Sewing-machine operators, Cleveland.....	143	54.07	55.20	+2
Small arms, New England.....	176	64.63	48.53	-25
Steel, Pittsburgh.....	91	53.38	42.68	-20
Textiles, New England.....	145	38.39	39.24	+2
Textiles, Charlotte.....	137	39.31	37.83	-4
Tool and die makers, Ohio.....	88	103.09	87.22	-15

¹ Willow Run study group omitted because hours of work had already been reduced to 40 at the time of the original survey. Weekly earnings were therefore not representative of the wartime situation.

¹¹ The Willow Run study unit is omitted from this discussion of changes in weekly earnings between the spring of 1945 and the winter of 1945-46, since hours had already been cut to the peacetime level of 40 per week when the workers involved were first surveyed.

¹² All period-to-period comparisons are for identical workers.

decrease of 25 percent, experienced an earnings loss within the 23- to 41-percent range of the declines of the war-industry study units. Workers in three of the nonwar groups were earning more when resurveyed than when first interviewed.

Weekly earnings losses of the nonwar workers were due primarily to reductions in hours worked. In the war-industry groups this factor was supplemented by lower wage rates associated mainly with changes of employers, though there was also some evidence of rate reductions affecting workers who remained in the same plants as at the time of the earlier survey. The 41-percent decline in the earnings of the St. Paul propeller makers involved a reduction in average weekly hours from 50.5 to 45.1 between the spring of 1945 and the winter of 1945-46; straight-time hourly earnings¹³ fell from \$1.26 to \$0.87. The Wichita aircraft workers' 40-percent decline in weekly earnings resulted from an average of 5.2 hours' less work per week, accompanied by a decline of 36 cents per hour in estimated straight-time hourly earnings (from \$1.15 to \$0.79 per hour).

In some instances weekly earnings declined sharply, despite increases in hours worked. The 12 women among the Mead ordnance workers reinterviewed took a drastic 52-percent cut in their average weekly earnings, from \$41.88 to \$20.29, though their hours of work had increased from 48.0 to 49.6 per week.

Though workers in all units, nonwar as well as war, reported shorter hours on the average than at the time of the spring survey, prewar levels had not yet been restored. Only the Cleveland sewing-machine operators, whose usual scheduled workweek is 35 hours, were working less than 40 hours per week. Metal miners averaged 49 hours per week. Textile workers in Charlotte, employed in a reconversion bottleneck industry, were working 48.5 and 43.7 hours in the case of men and women, respectively. The Houston ordnance workers, who were working alternating 60- and 70-hour weeks when first surveyed, still averaged 49 hours per week—longer hours than those of any of the other war-industry groups, despite the fact that they had practically all scattered to new, peacetime jobs.

Though hours had not yet receded to prewar levels, in only 2 of the 10 war-industry units were men¹⁴ receiving spendable earnings greater in purchasing power than those earned in 1941.¹⁵ Compared with the earnings of identical workers in that year, increases ranged, project by project, from 3 to 56 percent. The average increase for men in all the war-industry study units combined was 26 percent. Houston ordnance workers averaged only 10 percent more than in 1941, though still working an average 49-hour week. The Tacoma-Vancouver shipyard workers, with a 34-percent increase in their average earnings, had barely kept pace with the rise in the cost of living.

If there be added to rising prices the effect of sharply increased income taxes, even the Wichita and Los Angeles aircraft workers, who earned 54 and 56 percent more, respectively, than in 1941, had

¹³ Straight-time hourly earnings were roughly estimated by dividing weekly earnings by an hours figure representing actual average hours worked plus 50 percent of the excess over 40. It was assumed that all workers reporting were paid time and a half after 40 hours per week, though some, at the time of the resurvey, were in industries not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

¹⁴ The discussion of changes in earnings of the former war workers from the prewar period is based on reports of the men only, since the number of women reporting 1941 wages or salaries is too small to justify comparison.

¹⁵ 1941 average earnings were computed from the earliest figure reported by each individual for that year.

enjoyed far less improvement in their real income than the figures seem to suggest. The Los Angeles workers averaged \$52.00 per week when resurveyed. Based on their average of two dependents, \$3.50 per week was deducted for income-tax purposes. Considering the increased cost of living essentials, the remaining \$48.50 was equal to about \$36.50 in terms of early 1941 purchasing power, or a little over \$3 more per week than the \$33.36 which these same workers earned at that time. The Wichita aircraft workers, whose earnings of \$28.23 in 1941 were lower than those of any of the other war-industry groups, averaged \$43.47 when resurveyed. Allowing for tax deductions and adjusting for price rises, their spendable income was equivalent to about \$31 of 1941 earnings.¹⁶

By and large the earnings of the war workers studied did not reflect the 55-percent rise of average weekly earnings in manufacturing industry as a whole which had occurred between January 1941 and the resurvey. This is to be expected in view of the fact that many of the workers found jobs outside of manufacturing where the increase in earnings was smaller. For those who found other jobs in manufacturing plants, it is probable that the change sent many to the bottom of the line of promotion in their new plants and brought them the minimum of the rate range on jobs for which "spread rates" prevailed. Some of the sharpest wage cuts, however, were taken by workers who returned to their usual lines of work, in a number of instances to their prewar employers.

In relation to 1941 earnings, the Negro men studied fared just about as well or as poorly as the whites. The 81 Negro men in the war-industry groups who reported weekly wage or salary earnings for both 1941 and the winter of 1945-46, showed an increase of 26 percent for the period. Throughout the war and to the time of the resurvey, however, they had averaged considerably less than the white workers. When resurveyed they were earning \$37.77 per week, as compared with \$49.43 for the white men.

Workers in the nonwar group fared better than the ex-war workers. The improvement in their earnings over 1941 levels was great enough to meet the rise in consumer prices, though not enough to maintain their purchasing power in the face of both higher prices and increased income taxes. Considered as a unit, the nonwar workers studied had increased their gross weekly earnings by 34 percent from 1941 to the time of the resurvey. Their weekly hours of work, however, were still above prewar levels.

Postwar Migrations

An extensive geographical redistribution of workers was essential in the mobilization of the economy for war. In response to the demand for labor from mushrooming war production centers, thousands of men and women migrated, frequently threatening to engulf the facilities available to provide for their needs. By the time of the resurvey, the tide was rapidly ebbing.

¹⁶ The Mobile shipyard workers, whose earnings were 34 percent higher than in 1941, had an average of 3 dependents and earned \$37.53 per week when resurveyed. An individual worker with those earnings and that many dependents would be exempt from taxation and therefore about as well off as in 1941. However, those workers who deviated from the average by having fewer dependents or greater earnings would have had to pay income taxes. Thus, in actuality, the Mobile workers, like most of the others, had suffered depreciation of their purchasing power.

In the winter of 1945-46 more than a fourth of the war workers reporting¹⁷ (27 percent) had already left the communities where they were living during the spring of 1945. From nine States, they had scattered to 36 States and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii.

For the most part, they did not retrace their steps. Less than half (46 percent) returned to States in which they had resided in January 1941. The majority had broken ties with their former homes and were exploring opportunities in new locations.

Of the 325 war workers who did not return to their 1941 homes, almost half (47 percent) remained within the States where they had worked in war plants; of the remainder, California drew more workers than any other State. Only in 1 of the 10 war-industry study units, the Mead ordnance group, were there no workers who had gone to California.

Negroes and whites moved in approximately equal proportions—slightly more than a quarter of the total reporting in both cases. Similarly, the percentages of men and women who had moved were almost identical. Negro men, however, with nearly a third moving, were the most mobile group and Negro women the least. Of the latter, only 5 of the 49 reporting had migrated.

Age appeared to be closely associated with the tendency to move; the differences among the age groups were surprisingly uniform as between men and women. Among those under 20 years of age, about two-fifths of each sex had moved since the spring of 1945. Somewhat over a quarter of both men and women from 20 to 45 were no longer living where they were first surveyed. Among the older workers, about a fifth each of the men and of the women had left their wartime homes.

The extensive migration of workers in the war-industry study units are in marked contrast to the stability of the nonwar workers. Of the 1,591 workers from the latter units reporting, only 115, little more than 7 percent, had moved from the communities in which they were first surveyed. The great majority of these, 85 in number, came from a single study group, Mountain States metal mining. If these are excluded,¹⁸ the proportion of migrants among the nonwar workers falls to less than 2 percent. Of these, in turn, a majority came from the San Francisco building-construction carpenters who, because of the nature of their work, are accustomed to move to the sites of big construction jobs.

Among the nonwar workers who moved during the first phase of reconversion 96 were found living in places different from their 1941 residences. Of the remainder, 14 were from the metal-mining study unit. Excepting the metal miners, most of those who did move traveled relatively short distances and tended to remain within the areas where their occupations were in demand.

¹⁷ For purposes of this study a new address obtained for a worker outside the community in which he was living when first surveyed was considered equivalent to a report that he had moved to that address, even though no direct contact was established with him.

¹⁸ The peculiarities of the metal-mining group would perhaps justify its inclusion among the war-industry study units for purposes of analyzing migration experience. The acute shortage of manpower in the non-ferrous-metal mines forced the armed services early in the war to release experienced miners. This fact of itself brought in men who in January 1941 had lived in many different States. A total of 46 veterans, 41 from the Army and 5 from the Navy, were included among those originally surveyed for this study unit. In addition, national publicity on the shortage of manpower for mines attracted others from great distances. With the end of the war, the forces which had brought these men to the Mountain States mines disappeared.

Work Stoppages Caused by Labor-Management Disputes in 1945¹

Summary

THERE were 4,750 work stoppages arising from labor-management disputes in the United States during 1945. This number was greater than in any preceding year except 1944, when 4,956 occurred. The number of workers involved in 1945 stoppages (3,467,000) and the resulting idleness (38,025,000 man-days) were greater than in any year since 1919—the year following the close of World War I. In 1944, the last full year of the war, 2,116,000 workers were involved in stoppages, and idleness amounted to less than 9,000,000 man-days. The equivalent of slightly more than 12 percent of the country's employed wage earners were involved in work stoppages during 1945, and the resulting idleness amounted to about one-half of 1 percent (0.47 percent) of the available working time in American industry.

The total effect of these stoppages on the economy cannot be estimated, for the secondary effects cannot be measured. The 38,025,000 man-days of idleness among workers directly involved was equivalent to the time that would have been lost by wage earners in the United States if all industry had ceased to operate for about 1½ working days.

These figures for work stoppages during 1945 do not tell the full story, as there was a distinct change in the pattern of work stoppages after VJ-day (August 14). Also, the comparison with 1919 is not altogether valid, as 1919 represented a full postwar year, whereas there were only 4½ postwar months in 1945. Most of the stoppages before the end of the war were small, spontaneous and unauthorized strikes, many of them over minor issues which were quickly settled or turned over to Government agencies for decisions or settlements to be worked out after work was resumed. After VJ-day, however, the stoppages, on the average, were bigger, longer, and more difficult of solution, as the disputes involved such fundamental issues as the wage structure and its relation to prices and profits.

With the beginning of reconversion to peacetime production came lay-offs of workers in most war production industries and reductions in the number of working hours per week, which meant less take-home pay. Most employees had been working a 48-hour week, which, with overtime for the last 8 hours, meant the equivalent of pay for 52 hours at straight-time rates. The change to a 40-hour week cut their weekly earnings substantially.

Such reductions naturally intensified the demand for wage-rate changes which, as a matter of fact, had been more and more insistently advanced by the unions since the fall of 1943. Prior to that time the unions had supported wage stabilization and, in general, even the specific formulas for stabilization. They had, however, insisted on more rigorous price control and finally upon a roll-back of prices, for the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumers' price index had continued to advance after the "Little Steel" formula was developed in 1942. When it had been demonstrated that prices could not be held

¹ Prepared in the Bureau's Industrial Relations Branch under the direction of Don Q. Crowther.

within the 15-percent limit that basic wage rates were permitted to advance, the unions urged more and more strongly a wage-stabilization policy that would permit general increases in basic wage rates at least equal to changes in the cost of living. Their demands were tempered by general adherence to the no-strike pledge on the part of union leaders and also perhaps by the fact that, with long hours, upgrading and administrative adjustment in the rates paid to individuals, the consequences of the virtual freezing of basic wage rates under the "Little Steel" formula were somewhat mitigated. In addition, of course, although there was no concession with respect to general wage-rate changes, the War Labor Board permitted some improvement in working conditions through concessions to the unions on a number of "fringe issues." By the end of the war, however, there was less and less opportunity for these adjustments, while prices continued slowly but persistently to rise. With the ending of the war basic wage rates took on added importance, for it was certain that industry's practice would result in paring away the gains that individuals had obtained in a wartime labor market.

It was against this background then that the unions faced a large reduction in take-home pay as a result of the elimination of overtime work. Reductions in the length of the workweek have always stimulated demands for wage-rate increases to maintain take-home pay. In addition to all this there was the belief that profits both before and after taxes were large enough for many companies to sustain some increase of wages without necessitating a price increase. Thus some of the larger unions announced soon after VJ-day that they would seek wage increases sufficient to maintain for 40 hours of work the weekly earnings their members received during wartime, contending that employers, with their accumulated wartime profits and bright outlook for an era of high production and good markets, could well afford to pay such increases.

During the war the National War Labor Board had been given the final authority to determine disputes affecting the war effort, and it was required to approve substantially all wage increases before they could be put into effect. Almost immediately after the termination of the war a change in wage policy was announced, permitting employers to increase wages without War Labor Board approval provided the increases were not used as grounds for seeking price increases. It was also announced that the National War Labor Board would go out of existence at the end of 1945. The Board, therefore, declined to accept any additional dispute cases unless the parties agreed beforehand that they would abide by its decision. These developments opened the way for workers to seek wage increases without specific Government approval and widened the range for free collective bargaining. Many of the strikes that developed in connection with the disputes which followed were long and stubborn. The unions were strong and in dead earnest about maintaining high earnings, remembering the reductions in pay and in national income after the last war, which led to a period of hardship and the depression of 1921.

Of the total stoppages beginning in 1945, about 62.5 percent began in the 7½ months preceding VJ-day, and made idle about 52 percent of the total workers involved. Only a fourth of the total idleness in

1945 occurred, however, in the months preceding VJ-day. From January 1 to August 14 the idleness during stoppages amounted to 0.17 percent of the available working time; from August 15 to December 31 it was 1.07 percent.

The industries most affected by work stoppages were automobile manufacturing and coal mining. Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Ohio were the States most affected; these three experienced roughly 40 percent of the total work-stoppage impact.

TABLE 1.—*Work Stoppages in the United States, 1916 to 1945*

Year	Work stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle			Indexes (1935-39=100)		
	Number	Average duration (calendar days)	Number (thousands) ¹	Percent of total employed ²	Number (thousands)	Percent of available working time ³	Per worker involved	Work stoppages	Workers involved	Man-days idle
1916 ¹	3,789	(⁴)	1,600	8.4	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	132	142	(⁴)
1917.....	4,450	(⁴)	1,227	6.3	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	155	109	(⁴)
1918.....	3,353	(⁴)	1,240	6.2	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	117	110	(⁴)
1919.....	3,630	(⁴)	4,160	20.8	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	127	370	(⁴)
1920.....	3,411	(⁴)	1,463	7.2	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	119	130	(⁴)
1921.....	2,385	(⁴)	1,099	6.4	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	83	98	(⁴)
1922.....	1,112	(⁴)	1,613	8.7	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	39	143	(⁴)
1923.....	1,553	(⁴)	757	3.5	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	54	67	(⁴)
1924.....	1,249	(⁴)	655	3.1	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	44	58	(⁴)
1925.....	1,301	(⁴)	428	2.0	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	45	38	(⁴)
1926.....	1,035	(⁴)	330	1.5	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	36	29	(⁴)
1927.....	707	26.5	330	1.4	26,219	0.37	79.5	25	29	155
1928.....	604	27.6	314	1.3	12,632	.17	40.2	21	28	75
1929.....	921	22.6	289	1.2	5,352	.07	18.5	32	26	32
1930.....	637	22.3	183	.8	3,317	.05	18.1	22	16	20
1931.....	810	18.8	342	1.6	6,893	.11	20.2	28	30	41
1932.....	841	19.6	324	1.8	10,502	.23	32.4	29	29	62
1933.....	1,695	16.9	1,168	6.3	16,872	.36	14.4	59	104	100
1934.....	1,856	19.5	1,467	7.2	19,592	.38	13.4	65	130	116
1935.....	2,014	23.8	1,117	5.2	15,456	.29	13.8	70	99	91
1936.....	2,172	23.3	789	3.1	13,902	.21	17.6	76	70	82
1937.....	4,740	20.3	1,861	7.2	28,425	.43	15.3	166	165	168
1938.....	2,772	23.6	688	2.8	9,148	.15	13.3	97	61	54
1939.....	2,613	23.4	1,171	4.7	17,812	.28	15.2	91	104	105
1940.....	2,508	20.9	577	2.3	6,701	.10	11.6	88	51	40
1941.....	4,288	18.3	2,363	8.4	23,048	.32	9.8	150	210	136
1942.....	2,968	11.7	840	2.8	4,183	.05	5.0	104	75	25
1943.....	3,752	5.0	1,981	6.9	13,501	.15	6.8	131	176	80
1944.....	4,956	5.6	2,116	7.0	8,721	.09	4.1	173	188	51
1945.....	4,750	9.9	3,467	12.2	38,025	.47	11.0	166	308	224

¹ The number of workers involved in some strikes which occurred from 1916 to 1926 is not known. However, the missing information is for the smaller disputes, and it is believed that the totals here given are fairly accurate.

² "Total employed workers" as used here refers to all workers except those in occupations and professions in which there is little if any union organization or where strikes rarely if ever occur. In most industries it includes all wage and salary workers except those in executive, managerial, or high supervisory positions or those performing professional work the nature of which makes union organization or group action impracticable. It excludes all self-employed, domestic workers, agricultural wage workers on farms employing less than 6, all Federal and State government employees, and the officials, both elected and appointed, in local governments.

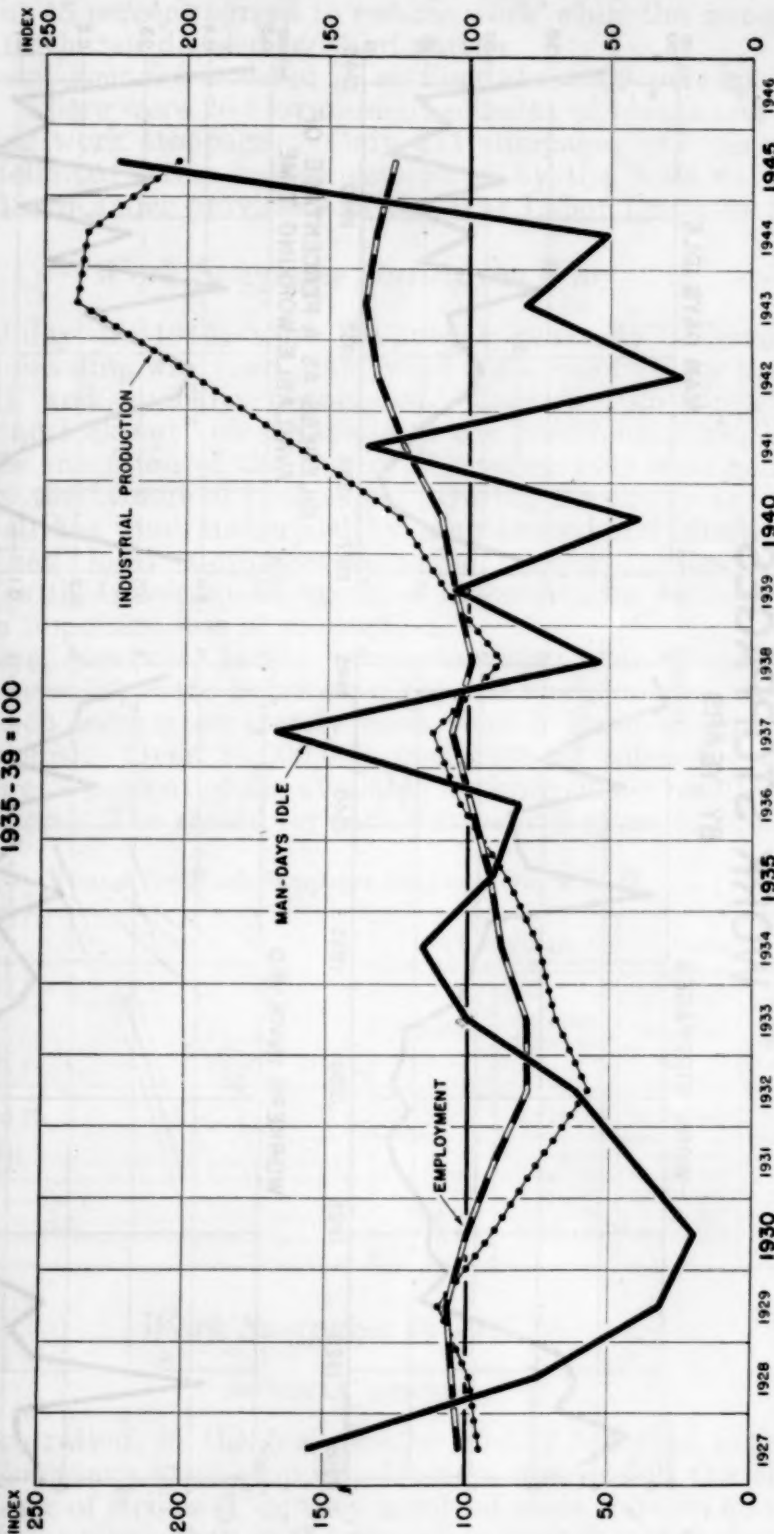
³ Available working time was computed for purposes of this table by multiplying the average number of employed workers each year by the number of days worked by most employees during the year.

⁴ Not available.

The average stoppage in 1945, regardless of the number of workers involved, lasted nearly 10 calendar days. Half of the stoppages involved 150 workers or less each, although the average number of workers involved per stoppage was 730 because of the heavy weighting of a few large strikes.

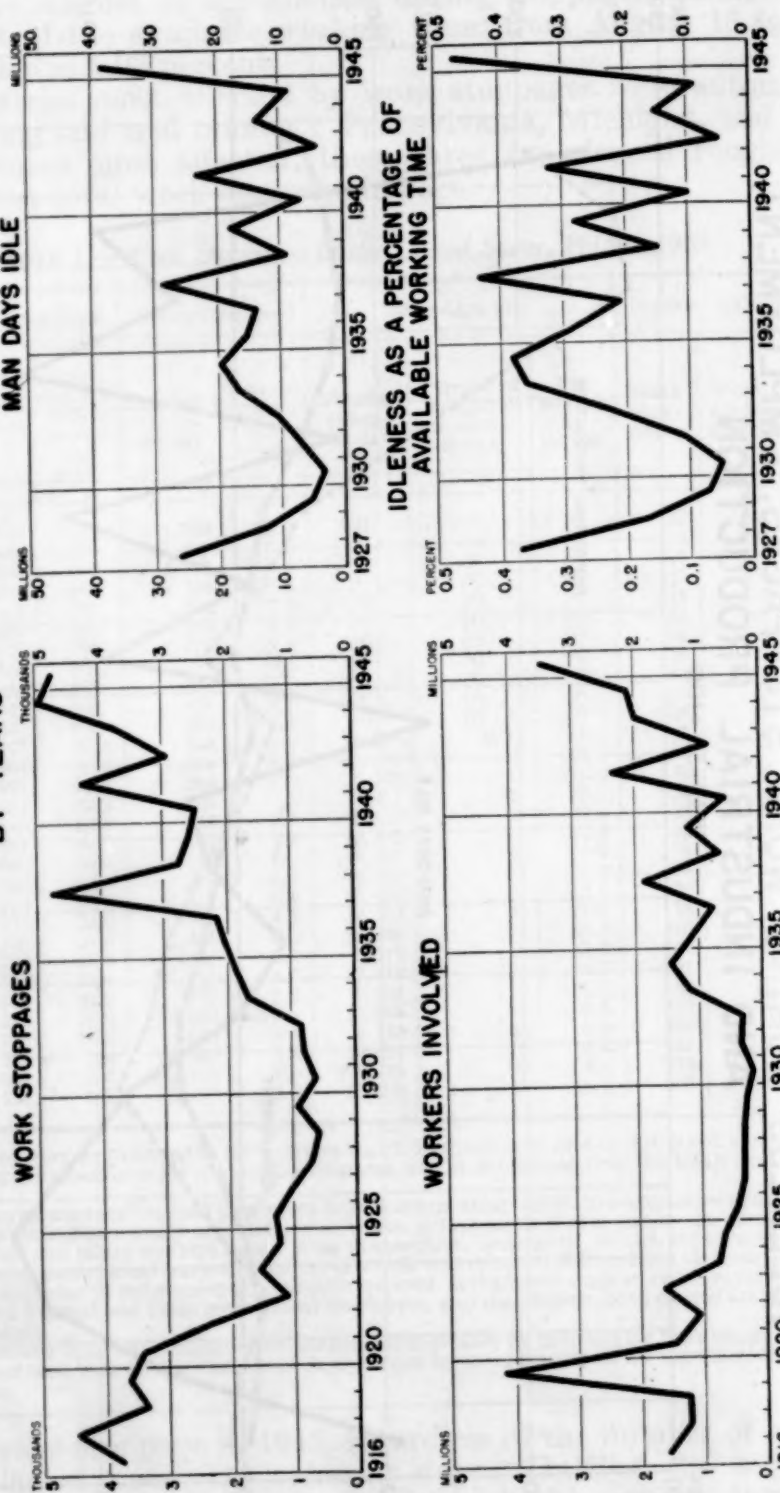
In nearly a fourth of the work stoppages the workers obtained agreements for substantial gains before resuming work; they obtained

IDLENESS DURING WORK STOPPAGES, EMPLOYMENT, AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 1935-39 = 100



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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WORK STOPPAGES BY YEARS



compromise settlements in 12 percent of the cases, lost in 16 percent, and in about 45 percent agreed to resume work while the issues were negotiated further or decided by third parties.

Government agencies assisted in settling about 60 percent of the stoppages. There were 20 Government seizures of plants and facilities following work stoppages. Only 213 stoppages (4.5 percent of the total) followed strike ballots conducted by the National Labor Relations Board under provisions of the War Labor Disputes Act.

Work Stoppages During the War

Until VJ-day in 1945, work stoppages generally followed the pattern of preceding war years; they were numerous but, for the most part, small and quickly terminated. Labor's "no strike" and industry's "no lock-out" pledge made to the President of the United States at the inception of the war in December 1941 were generally observed by the leaders of both sides. During the entire war period few if any strikes were authorized by the national and international unions. When local stoppages occurred, union leaders usually cooperated with Government agencies in securing a resumption of work with a minimum loss of production.

There were, however, 14,731 work stoppages from December 8, 1941, to August 14, 1945, in which 6,744,000 workers were involved (counting each worker separately each time if involved in two or more stoppages). Over 36,000,000 man-days of idleness—slightly over a tenth of 1 percent of the available working time—resulted from these stoppages. The record for each war year is given in table 2.

TABLE 2.—*Work Stoppages During World War II*

Period	Work Stoppages		Man-days idle	
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Percent of available working time
Total—World War II.....	14, 731	6, 744, 000	36, 301, 000	0. 11
December 8-31, 1941.....	84	16, 000	303, 000	.06
1942.....	2, 968	840, 000	4, 183, 000	.05
1943.....	3, 752	1, 981, 000	13, 501, 000	.15
1944.....	4, 956	2, 116, 000	8, 721, 000	.09
January 1-August 14, 1945.....	2, 971	1, 791, 000	9, 593, 000	.17

Work Stoppages in 1945²

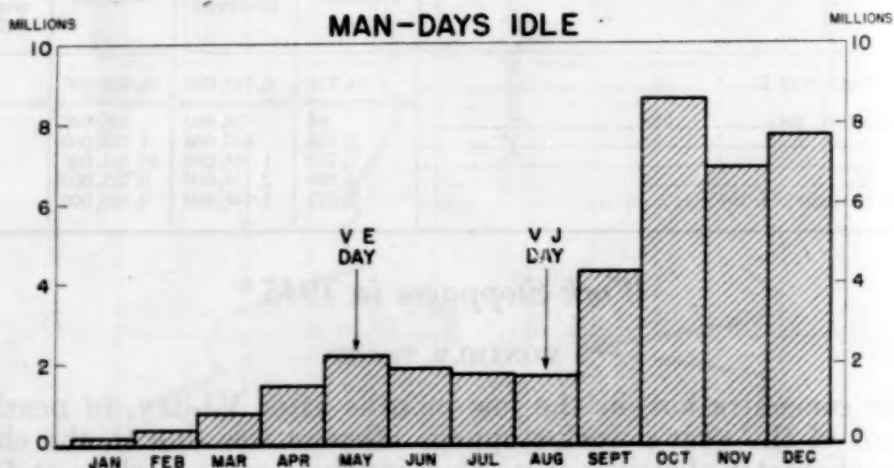
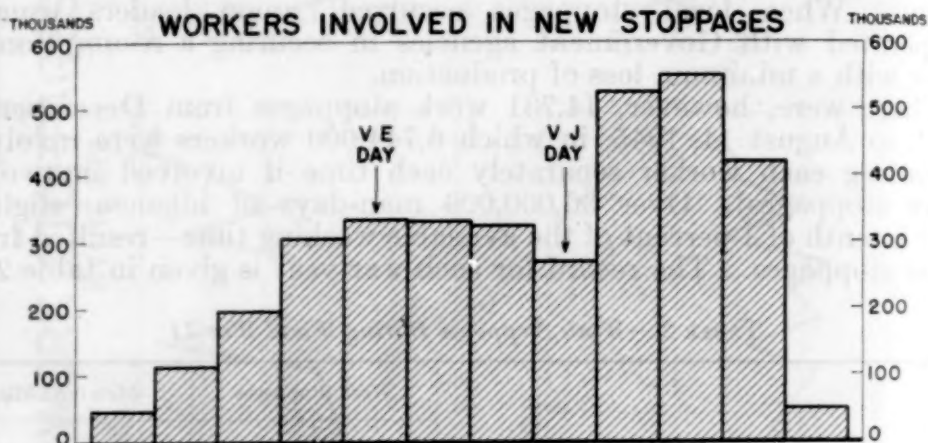
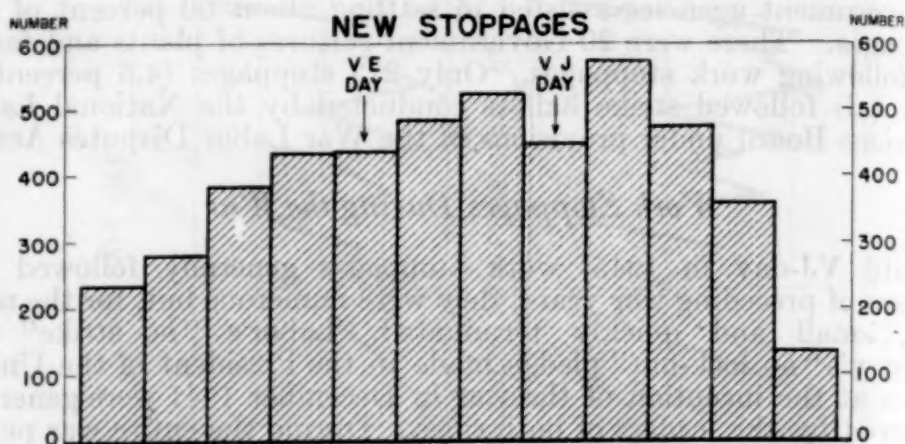
MONTHLY TREND

The concentration, in the few months after VJ-day, of nearly 75 percent of the year's work-stoppage idleness was due to the change in the character of strikes (i. e., they involved more workers and were longer, on the average, than in the preceding period) rather than to a substantial increase in the number of stoppages. In fact, the monthly trend in number of stoppages was not unlike the general trend of

² The section covered by pp. 723-729 pertains primarily to stoppages which began during the year; the succeeding part of the statistical analysis refers to those which ended in 1945.

CHART 3

WORK STOPPAGES IN 1945 BY MONTHS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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other recent years. From 234 new stoppages in January the number increased each month to 523 in July, dropped to 447 in August, reached a high of 573 in September, then decreased monthly to a low of 134 in December (table 3).

The number of workers involved in new stoppages increased each month from January to May, decreased somewhat during the summer months, rose in September and October to a high of over half a million, then declined in November and December. Less than two-tenths of 1 percent of the country's wage earners were involved in stoppages in January; in October 3.15 percent were involved sometime during the month.

Idleness ranged by months from about 200,000 man-days in January to 8,611,000 in October. The large figure for October was caused primarily by the strike of supervisory workers in bituminous-coal mines, which was in progress for the first 3 weeks of the month. Idleness in November dropped a little, but increased in December, largely as a result of the strike in General Motors Corp. plants, which began on November 21 and was still in effect at the end of the year.

TABLE 3.—*Work Stoppages in 1944 and 1945, by Months*

Month	Number of stoppages—		Workers involved in stoppages—			May-days idle during month	
	Beginning in month	In effect during month	Beginning in month	In effect during month		Number	Percent of available working time ²
				Number	Percent of total employed ¹		
1944							
January.....	330	363	113,500	133,600	0.44	710,000	0.09
February.....	340	378	146,400	163,200	.54	459,000	.06
March.....	386	429	134,700	147,800	.49	441,000	.05
April.....	453	516	165,500	181,200	.60	614,000	.08
May.....	589	666	319,000	343,300	1.15	1,443,000	.18
June.....	441	519	144,600	220,500	.73	727,000	.09
July.....	469	538	171,500	208,100	.69	652,000	.08
August.....	501	587	197,900	238,900	.79	959,000	.12
September.....	408	480	207,400	234,800	.78	786,000	.10
October.....	430	493	221,900	238,100	.80	756,000	.10
November.....	345	426	201,400	229,300	.77	789,000	.11
December.....	264	318	91,700	116,600	.39	387,000	.05
1945							
January.....	234	265	46,700	55,100	.19	199,000	.03
February.....	279	313	111,000	118,300	.41	388,000	.06
March.....	382	422	196,900	226,500	.78	775,000	.10
April.....	431	486	305,500	327,400	1.13	1,472,000	.20
May.....	433	517	332,700	358,200	1.24	2,219,000	.29
June.....	482	576	331,600	382,500	1.32	1,886,000	.25
July.....	523	611	325,000	413,000	1.44	1,769,000	.24
August.....	447	586	270,900	354,300	1.24	1,712,000	.24
September.....	573	730	525,600	610,900	2.26	4,341,000	.73
October.....	474	737	550,500	851,700	3.15	8,611,000	1.39
November.....	358	619	420,200	660,400	2.40	6,935,000	1.20
December.....	134	367	50,400	503,900	1.82	7,718,000	1.39

¹ See footnote 2 to table 1.

² See footnote 3 to table 1.

INDUSTRIES AFFECTED

Automobile manufacturing was affected by work stoppages in 1945 to a greater extent than any other industry group, with idleness during stoppages amounting to more than 4 percent of the available working time (table 4). There were several fairly large stoppages in the industry through the year in addition to the General Motors strike, which started in November and involved about 200,000 workers. The mining industries (principally coal) came next, with 2.88 percent of available time lost.

Counting the workers separately each time when involved in more than one stoppage, the mining industries had more workers involved than any other group and automobiles came second. The rubber industry had the highest percentage of workers involved—127 percent

TABLE 4.—Work Stoppages Beginning in 1945, by Industry Group ¹

Industry group	Number of stoppages beginning in 1945	Workers involved		Man-days idle during 1945	
		Number	Percent of total employed ²	Number	Percent of available working time ³
All industries.....	4,750	3,467,000	12.2	38,025,000	0.47
Manufacturing.....	3,185	2,509,000	19.6	28,758,000	.78
Food and kindred products.....	212	83,900	7.4	959,000	.30
Tobacco manufactures.....	22	15,800	18.0	284,000	1.12
Textile-mill products.....	187	107,400	9.3	1,456,000	.44
Apparel and other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.....	118	15,400	17.5	177,000	.70
Lumber and timber basic products.....	67	57,600	11.9	2,230,000	1.61
Furniture and finished lumber products.....	90	20,800	5.9	363,000	.36
Paper and allied products.....	92	27,700	8.2	354,000	.36
Printing, publishing and allied industries.....	47	13,200	3.7	221,000	.22
Chemicals and allied products.....	120	43,600	7.2	427,000	.25
Products of petroleum and coal.....	38	50,000	3.4	450,000	1.07
Rubber products.....	123	258,400	127.3	1,521,000	2.61
Leather and leather products.....	111	50,600	14.9	248,000	.25
Stone, clay and glass products.....	104	60,400	17.2	1,203,000	1.19
Iron and steel and their products.....	817	425,100	26.4	3,731,000	.81
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	142	75,000	18.8	600,000	.52
Machinery (except electrical).....	335	228,200	20.0	2,965,000	.91
Electrical machinery.....	96	121,200	18.4	1,390,000	.74
Transportation equipment (except automobiles).....	223	360,500	23.4	2,430,000	.55
Automobiles and automobile equipment.....	184	473,700	75.9	7,308,000	4.06
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.....	76	20,600	5.0	441,000	.37
Nonmanufacturing.....	1,569	958,000	6.1	9,267,000	.21
Agriculture, forestry and fishing.....	20	5,000	(⁴)	47,000	(⁴)
Mining.....	670	678,000	89.8	6,234,000	2.88
Construction.....	206	45,800	5.8	447,000	.20
Trade.....	182	34,800	.6	336,000	.02
Finance, insurance and real estate.....	23	15,700	(⁴)	80,000	(⁴)
Transportation, communication and other public utilities.....	342	157,000	4.4	1,551,000	.15
Services—personal, business and other.....	97	18,400	(⁴)	552,000	(⁴)
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	32	3,400	(⁴)	20,000	(⁴)

¹ Work stoppages are classified by industry on the basis of normal or prewar products or services of the firms involved. Many of the firms were manufacturing other products and doing other types of work during 1945 because of war needs.

² See footnote 2 to table 1.

³ See footnote 3 to table 1.

⁴ This figure is less than the sum of the figures below. This is because one or more strikes, each affecting more than one industry, have been counted as separate strikes in each industry affected, with the proper allocation of workers and man-days idle to each industry.

⁵ The number of workers involved was larger than the total number employed in the industry. This is because some workers have participated in more than one work stoppage, and as a consequence have been counted more than once.

⁶ Not available.

of the total employed in the industry. Several thousand workers in Akron plants were involved in more than one stoppage.

Industries manufacturing iron and steel and their products had more stoppages (817) than any other group; the mining industries came next with 670.

STATES AFFECTED

Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Ohio, all heavily industrialized States, had more workers involved and more resulting idleness than other States during 1945 (table 5). Together these three accounted for more than a third of the total stoppages throughout the country, almost 45 percent of the total workers involved, and 40 percent of

TABLE 5.—Work Stoppages in 1945, by States

State	Number of stoppages beginning in 1945	Workers involved		Man-days idle during 1945	
		Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
All States.....	4,750	3,467,000	100.0	38,025,000	100.0
Alabama.....	147	74,800	2.2	459,000	1.2
Arizona.....	11	4,100	.1	59,000	.2
Arkansas.....	21	3,200	.1	32,000	.1
California.....	150	121,200	3.5	2,777,000	7.3
Colorado.....	28	13,900	.4	86,000	.2
Connecticut.....	79	39,300	1.1	750,000	2.0
Delaware.....	13	3,600	.1	49,000	.1
District of Columbia.....	12	5,100	.1	35,000	.1
Florida.....	29	13,100	.4	143,000	.4
Georgia.....	42	15,300	.4	149,000	.4
Idaho.....	12	1,900	.1	75,000	.2
Illinois.....	491	275,000	7.9	2,559,000	6.7
Indiana.....	203	157,100	4.5	1,989,000	5.2
Iowa.....	43	18,200	.5	256,000	.7
Kansas.....	14	6,000	.2	43,000	.1
Kentucky.....	149	99,100	2.9	964,000	2.5
Louisiana.....	50	20,700	.6	251,000	.7
Maine.....	11	14,300	.4	203,000	.5
Maryland.....	57	33,300	1.0	246,000	.6
Massachusetts.....	239	60,700	1.7	397,000	1.0
Michigan.....	478	521,100	15.0	5,960,000	15.8
Minnesota.....	29	10,900	.3	246,000	.6
Mississippi.....	15	9,100	.3	44,000	.1
Missouri.....	148	70,600	2.0	901,000	2.4
Montana.....	9	3,000	.1	171,000	.5
Nebraska.....	11	4,000	.1	52,000	.1
Nevada.....	5	400	(²)	3,000	(²)
New Hampshire.....	13	5,800	.2	63,000	.2
New Jersey.....	252	168,100	4.8	1,778,000	4.7
New Mexico.....	10	1,600	(²)	22,000	.1
New York.....	361	174,800	5.0	1,396,000	3.7
North Carolina.....	37	17,500	.5	438,000	1.2
North Dakota.....	2	400	(²)	12,000	(²)
Ohio.....	477	417,900	12.1	3,435,000	9.0
Oklahoma.....	23	5,300	.2	73,000	.2
Oregon.....	36	25,900	.7	954,000	2.5
Pennsylvania.....	743	599,300	17.5	5,922,000	15.6
Rhode Island.....	47	22,900	.7	456,000	1.2
South Carolina.....	14	7,200	.2	200,000	.5
South Dakota.....	3	700	(²)	12,000	(²)
Tennessee.....	118	69,800	2.0	461,000	1.2
Texas.....	72	73,800	2.1	510,000	1.3
Utah.....	19	3,100	.1	16,000	(²)
Vermont.....	2	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Virginia.....	88	40,300	1.2	255,000	.7
Washington.....	38	32,500	.9	852,000	2.2
West Virginia.....	128	156,700	4.5	1,664,000	4.4
Wisconsin.....	96	44,100	1.3	600,000	1.6
Wyoming.....	5	500	(²)	3,000	(²)

¹ The sum of this column is more than 4,750, because the stoppages extending across State lines have been counted as separate stoppages in each State affected, with the proper allocation of workers involved and man-days idle.

² Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

³ Less than 100.

the nation's idleness during stoppages. Pennsylvania and Michigan each had nearly 6,000,000 man-days of idleness during the year, and Ohio had well over 3,000,000. Other States with over a million man-days of idleness were California (2,777,000), Illinois (2,559,000), Indiana (1,989,000), New Jersey (1,778,000), West Virginia (1,664,000), and New York (1,396,000).

WORKERS INVOLVED

The median number of workers involved in work stoppages during the year was 150. The average number involved per strike was 730.

TABLE 6.—*Work Stoppages Beginning in 1945, Classified by Number of Workers Involved and Industry Group*

Industry group	Number of stoppages ¹	Median number of workers involved	Number of stoppages in which the number of workers involved was—							
			6 and under 20	20 and under 100	100 and under 250	250 and under 500	500 and under 1,000	1,000 and under 5,000	5,000 and under 10,000	10,000 and over
All Industries:										
Number.....	4,750	150	481	1,441	1,067	693	508	454	64	42
Percent.....	100.0		10.1	30.3	22.5	14.6	10.7	9.6	1.3	.9
<i>Manufacturing</i>										
Food and kindred products.....	211	102	34	67	43	27	14	25	1	
Tobacco manufactures.....	21	185	2	7	2	3	3	3	1	
Textile-mill products.....	186	168	17	49	49	24	28	17		2
Apparel and other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.....	117	70	16	59	22	14	6			
Lumber and timber basic products.....	67	80	3	35	14	6	5	3		1
Furniture and finished lumber products.....	89	95	12	33	20	16	3	5		
Paper and allied products.....	91	127	4	31	28	13	10	5		
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....	47	75	9	19	9	4	2	4		
Chemicals and allied products.....	118	135	10	36	36	13	12	10	1	
Products of petroleum and coal.....	36	125	1	13	13	1	6	2		
Rubber products.....	122	586	4	17	19	16	25	26	7	8
Leather and leather products.....	110	77	18	38	24	12	12	5		1
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	104	149	12	32	17	21	13	7		2
Iron and steel and their products.....	815	195	44	222	196	135	111	95	12	
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	141	172	6	43	39	17	17	18	1	
Machinery (except electrical).....	332	279	13	74	69	71	52	45	7	1
Electrical machinery.....	94	380	1	22	20	12	16	20	1	2
Transportation equipment (except automobiles).....	221	364	7	52	30	34	34	44	14	6
Automobiles and automobile equipment.....	183	500	4	29	33	25	35	42	9	6
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.....	75	83	10	29	17	9	6	4		
<i>Nonmanufacturing</i>										
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing.....	20	70	4	7	3	1	3	2		
Mining.....	669	194	33	161	205	153	69	39	4	5
Construction.....	206	55	39	100	38	14	5	8	2	
Trade.....	180	43	59	64	31	12	7	6	1	
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	23	14	14	6	2					1
Transportation, communication, and other public utilities.....	339	60	65	141	67	34	11	15	2	4
Services—personal, business, and other.....	96	36	32	39	16	4	3	1	1	
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	32	51	8	16	5	2		1		
Interindustry.....	5	12,600						2		3

¹ The total number of stoppages shown for each industry group may differ from the number shown for the corresponding group in table 4 because of the fact that in that table each stoppage extending into more than one industry group is counted as a separate stoppage in each group affected. In table 6 such stoppages are shown at the end as "interindustry" stoppages.

Ten percent of the stoppages involved fewer than 20 workers each; at the other end of the scale nearly 12 percent involved more than 1,000 workers each (table 6).

In manufacturing industries the median number of workers involved ranged from 70 in the apparel industries to 586 in the rubber-products industries. In nonmanufacturing industries the range was from 14 in finance, insurance, and real-estate establishments to 194 in the mining industries.

NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS INVOLVED³

Only 1 establishment was involved in each of 3,854 stoppages (83.5 percent of the total) ending in 1945 (table 7). In 627 or 13.6 percent of the stoppages 2 to 10 establishments were involved, and 135 stoppages (3 out of each 100) extended to more than 10 establishments. In these classifications an establishment is defined as a single work place, e. g., a factory, a mine, a construction project, a ship, or a farm. More than half of the total workers involved in the stoppages ending in 1945 were included in the 1-establishment stoppages. At least 41 percent of the total idleness resulting from the stoppages ending in the year was in connection with the single-establishment disputes, and 36 percent was caused by widespread stoppages each of which involved more than 10 establishments.

TABLE 7.—*Work Stoppages Ending¹ in 1945, by Number of Establishments Involved*

Number of establishments involved	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	4,616	100.0	3,069,300	100.0	24,360,000	100.0
1 establishment.....	3,854	83.5	1,620,900	52.8	10,031,000	41.2
2 to 5 establishments.....	509	11.0	446,200	14.5	4,181,000	17.2
6 to 10 establishments.....	118	2.6	165,400	5.4	1,416,000	5.8
11 establishments and over.....	135	2.9	836,800	27.3	8,732,000	35.8

¹ It should be noted that this and subsequent tables are based on the stoppages *ending* in the year and that the totals differ from those in preceding tables, which show the number of stoppages *beginning* in the year.

UNIONS INVOLVED

The work stoppages which ended in 1945 are classified in table 8 according to the affiliations of the unions to which the workers involved belonged. This does not mean necessarily that the stoppages were called or authorized by the unions. In fact, during the war period most of the strikes were unauthorized, and union officials endeavored to get the strikers back on the job as quickly as possible.

Members of unions affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations were involved in 40 percent of the stoppages, which included 49 percent of the total workers involved and accounted for 39.5 percent of the resulting idleness. Members of American Federation of Labor unions were connected with 37 percent of the stoppages, which included 20 percent of the total workers involved and accounted for 25 percent of the total idleness. Unions affiliated with neither

³ The statistical analysis from here to the end of the section (p. 734) refers to stoppages which ended in 1945.

AFL nor CIO were involved in about 17 percent of the stoppages, which included more than a fourth of the total workers involved and accounted for about a third of the idleness. Most of the stoppages in the latter group were disputes involving the United Mine Workers of America. Single-company unions—labor organizations whose respective memberships consisted of employees of a single company—were involved in 31 stoppages. Workers belonging to no union were involved in 128 work stoppages.

TABLE 8.—*Work Stoppages Ending in 1945, by Affiliation of Labor Organizations Involved*

Labor organizations involved	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	4, 616	100. 0	3, 069, 300	100. 0	24, 360, 000	100. 0
American Federation of Labor.....	1, 720	37. 2	607, 900	19. 8	6, 058, 000	24. 9
Congress of Industrial Organizations.....	1, 864	40. 3	1, 511, 400	49. 3	9, 631, 000	39. 5
Unaffiliated railroad brotherhoods.....	3	. 1	500	(¹)	1, 000	(¹)
Unaffiliated unions (other).....	792	17. 2	838, 000	27. 3	8, 037, 000	33. 0
Two rival unions.....	71	1. 5	82, 600	2. 7	519, 000	2. 1
Single-company unions.....	31	. 7	15, 300	. 5	50, 000	. 2
No organization.....	128	2. 8	12, 900	. 4	62, 000	. 3
Not reported.....	7	. 2	700	(¹)	2, 000	(¹)

¹ Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

DURATION OF WORK STOPPAGES

The average duration of work stoppages ending in 1945 was 9.9 calendar days. This is a simple average unweighted by number of workers involved. The average was somewhat higher than in 1944 (5.6) and 1943 (5.0), but lower than in 1942 (11.7) and 1941 (18.3), and was substantially lower than in the prewar years 1935 to 1940, when it ranged from 20.3 to 23.8. Workers involved in strikes during 1945 were idle 11 working days, on the average. This was much longer than in the preceding war years, when the averages were 4.1 in 1944, 6.8 in 1943, and 5.0 in 1942, but was less than in the immediate prewar years, when the averages ranged as high as 17.6 working days per worker in 1936.

TABLE 9.—*Duration of Work Stoppages Ending in 1945*

-Duration	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	4, 616	100. 0	3, 069, 300	100. 0	24, 360, 000	100. 0
1 day.....	705	15. 3	261, 600	8. 5	262, 000	1. 1
2 to 3 days.....	1, 220	26. 4	628, 200	20. 6	1, 309, 000	5. 4
4 days and less than 1 week.....	924	20. 0	646, 200	21. 2	2, 320, 000	9. 5
1 week and less than 1/2 month.....	919	19. 9	648, 700	21. 2	4, 311, 000	17. 7
1/2 and less than 1 month.....	494	10. 7	483, 900	15. 8	6, 265, 000	25. 7
1 and less than 2 months.....	261	5. 7	349, 300	11. 4	7, 264, 000	29. 8
2 and less than 3 months.....	71	1. 5	35, 700	1. 2	1, 706, 000	7. 0
3 months and over.....	22	. 5	15, 700	. 1	923, 000	3. 8

More than 40 percent of the stoppages ending in 1945 lasted only 1, 2, or 3 days, and another 40 percent lasted from 4 to 15 days (table 9). Less than 8 percent of the stoppages lasted as long as 1 month. About 26 percent of the total idleness resulting from stoppages ending in the year was in connection with those which lasted from 15 to 30 days; about 30 percent of the idle man-days resulted from the stoppages which lasted from 30 to 60 days.

MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED

The causes of work stoppages arising from labor-management disputes are many and varied, and the issues in any one strike or lockout are generally numerous and complex. Such major factors as wages, hours, collective-bargaining relations, etc., are the underlying issues, but many stoppages occur because of the human element and lack of skill or apparent good faith in conducting negotiations. For every dispute which develops into a strike or lock-out, hundreds are settled without work stoppages.

The human elements entering into the causes of work stoppages do not lend themselves to statistical evaluation, and it is realized that any effort to classify, for statistical count, the major economic factors over which individual disputes occur may yield only a partial indication of the real causes. Nevertheless, such a classification of issues furnishes the best, if not the only available approach to the causes of labor-management disputes. The issues involved in each stoppage are examined and evaluated in the Bureau, and the strikes are classified according to the apparent major issue. The results of this classification for 1945 appear in table 10.

Dissatisfaction with existing wages and hours of work, sometimes in conjunction with union organization or other issues, continued in 1945 as the most important issue in work stoppages, with 50 percent of the cases concerned with this general problem. Following the trend begun in 1943, work stoppages concerned with so-called "fringe" wage issues (holiday and vacation pay, adjustment of piece rates, payment for travel time, etc.) have become steadily more important, and in 1945 were responsible for a larger percent of the total workers involved and man-days of idleness than those concerned with straight wage increases. In 1942 only 6.0 percent of the total man days idle were attributed to the fringe issues; by 1944, the proportion had increased to 16.3 percent, and by 1945, to 22.8. An even larger increase took place in the number of workers involved.

The issues of union recognition, closed or union shop, discrimination, and other union-organization questions were primarily responsible for 12.6 percent of the work stoppages, 16.7 percent of the workers involved, and 20.7 percent of the man-days idle in 1945. Some of the larger stoppages in this category represented efforts to obtain union recognition and collective-bargaining rights for supervisory workers.

Other working conditions (including job security, shop conditions and policies, work load, etc.) continued to be the issues responsible for about a third of the stoppages, 29 percent of the number of workers involved, and a fifth of the idleness in 1945. Stoppages caused by issues concerned with interunion or intraunion matters (union rivalry or factionalism and jurisdiction) have remained relatively low, as in the past few years (4 to 5 percent).

Since many of the strikes in 1945 were of longer duration than in 1944, the actual number of man-days of idleness in each instance is much larger, as compared with 1944, than a simple comparison of the percentages would indicate. For instance, the total number of days lost in 1944 because of work stoppages over all issues was about 9,000,000. In 1945 almost 13,000,000 days were lost as a result of issues involving wages and hours, and another 10,000,000 days were lost because of stoppages over union organization matters and other working conditions.

TABLE 10.—Major Issues Involved in Work Stoppages Ending in 1945

Major issue	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
All issues.....	4,616	100.0	3,069,300	100.0	24,360,000	100.0
Wages and hours.....	1,956	42.4	1,339,400	43.7	10,817,000	44.4
Wage increase.....	915	19.8	488,200	15.9	4,758,300	19.5
Wage decrease.....	56	1.2	47,600	1.6	347,400	1.4
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	20	.4	9,100	.3	111,000	.5
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	7	.2	18,000	.6	50,200	.2
Other ¹	958	20.8	776,500	25.3	5,550,100	22.8
Union organization, wages, and hours.....	366	7.9	158,000	5.1	2,116,000	8.7
Recognition, wages, and/or hours.....	236	5.1	75,200	2.4	953,700	3.9
Strengthening bargaining position, wages, and/or hours.....	27	.6	15,400	.5	185,400	.8
Closed or union shop, wages, and/or hours.....	90	1.9	40,700	1.3	638,400	2.6
Discrimination, wages, and/or hours.....	7	.2	3,300	.1	50,100	.2
Other.....	6	.1	23,400	.8	288,400	1.2
Union organization.....	580	12.6	513,200	16.7	5,045,000	20.7
Recognition.....	226	5.0	272,500	8.9	3,629,700	14.8
Strengthening bargaining position.....	57	1.2	28,100	.9	207,600	.9
Closed or union shop.....	126	2.7	57,700	1.9	458,300	1.9
Discrimination.....	132	2.9	138,600	4.5	646,200	2.7
Other.....	39	.8	16,300	.5	103,200	.4
Other working conditions.....	1,510	32.7	887,900	29.0	5,024,000	20.6
Job security.....	673	14.6	382,500	12.5	2,536,300	10.4
Shop conditions and policies.....	675	14.6	326,000	10.6	1,516,400	6.2
Work load.....	131	2.8	125,500	4.1	798,700	3.3
Other.....	31	.7	53,900	1.8	172,600	.7
Interunion or intraunion matters.....	194	4.2	169,400	5.5	1,353,000	5.6
Sympathy.....	28	.6	28,600	.9	142,500	.6
Union rivalry or factionalism.....	77	1.7	86,500	2.9	542,600	2.2
Jurisdiction.....	72	1.6	49,100	1.6	645,800	2.7
Union regulations.....	11	.2	4,500	.1	19,100	.1
Other.....	6	.1	700	(²)	3,000	(²)
Not reported.....	10	.2	1,400	(²)	5,000	(²)

¹ Includes stoppages involving adjustments of piece rates, incentive rates, wage classifications for new and changed operations, retroactive pay, holiday and vacation pay, payment for travel time, etc.
 Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

RESULTS OF WORK STOPPAGES

The classifications of work stoppages according to whether they were won, compromised, or lost is often difficult for the reason that many disputes are concerned with a number of complex issues which are frequently settled in such a way as to make it difficult to determine the respective gains or losses to the contending parties. The Bureau does attempt, nevertheless, to obtain from the parties directly concerned statements on the issues involved and on the terms of settlement, and endeavors to evaluate as nearly as possible the results of each stoppage on an over-all basis to indicate whether the stoppages resulted in substantial gains, partial gains, or little or no gains for the workers.

Of the stoppages ending in 1945, the results of about 55 percent were determined at the time the stoppages ended (table 11). In the re-

mainder, work was resumed, with the issues in dispute to be negotiated later by the parties directly involved, by Government agencies, or by private arbitrators.

Nearly 25 percent of the total stoppages resulted in substantial gains to the workers as determined at the time work was resumed. An additional 12 percent brought partial gains or compromises, and 16 percent resulted in little or no gains to the workers. About 11 percent of the total workers involved substantially obtained their demands, and an additional 13 percent obtained partial gains or compromise settlements, whereas 19 percent gained little or nothing. About 51 percent of the workers went back to their jobs pending final disposition of their disputes through further negotiations, mediation, or arbitration.

TABLE 11.—Results of Work Stoppages Ending in 1945

Result	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total
Total.....	4,616	100.0	3,069,300	100.0	24,360,000	100.0
Issues settled at strike termination:						
Substantial gains to workers.....	1,114	24.0	330,100	10.8	3,051,000	12.5
Partial gains or compromises.....	534	11.6	392,900	12.8	5,090,000	20.9
Little or no gains.....	744	16.1	594,200	19.4	4,726,000	19.4
Indeterminate.....	153	3.4	187,400	6.1	882,000	3.6
Issues to be negotiated:						
By parties concerned.....	941	20.4	656,200	21.4	3,817,000	15.7
By Government agencies.....	926	20.1	771,200	25.1	5,463,000	22.5
By private arbitrators.....	189	4.1	136,100	4.4	1,322,000	5.4
Not reported.....	12	.3	1,200	(1)	9,000	(1)

¹ Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

METHODS OF TERMINATING WORK STOPPAGES

Nearly 60 percent of the stoppages ending in 1945, including 72 percent of the total workers involved and accounting for 81 percent of the total idleness, were terminated with the assistance of Government agencies (table 12). In some cases the disputes were settled before work was resumed, and in others the workers were persuaded to go back to their jobs while the issues were negotiated further. About 32 percent of the stoppages, including 17 percent of the workers involved and accounting for 13 percent of the idleness, were settled

TABLE 12.—Methods of Terminating Work Stoppages Ending in 1945

Method of termination	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-days idle	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	4,616	100.0	3,069,300	100.0	24,360,000	100.0
Agreement of parties arrived at—						
Directly.....	1,485	32.2	534,500	17.4	3,098,000	12.7
With assistance of impartial chairmen.....	9	.2	41,400	1.3	361,000	1.5
With assistance of Government agencies.....	2,745	59.5	2,203,000	71.9	19,765,000	81.1
Terminated without formal settlement.....	339	7.3	286,200	9.3	1,084,000	4.5
Employers discontinued business.....	29	.6	3,400	.1	43,000	.2
Not reported.....	9	.2	800	(1)	9,000	(1)

¹ Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

directly by the companies and unions concerned. Approximately 8 percent of the stoppages, including over 9 percent of the total workers and accounting for nearly 5 percent of the idleness, were terminated without formal settlements. In a few of these cases the employers discontinued business at the establishments involved. In most cases, however, the strikes were called off and the employees returned to work with no agreement or settlement of the matters at issue.

There were 20 work stoppages in 1945 which were followed by Government seizure of the plants or facilities. Seventeen of these occurred before VJ-day; 14 involved company or union failure to comply with decisions or orders of the National War Labor Board.

Strikes Under War Labor Disputes Act in 1945

During 1945 the National Labor Relations Board conducted 1,445 strike ballots under provisions of the War Labor Disputes Act, more generally known as the Smith-Connally Act.⁴ In 1,249 of these a majority of the employees voted in favor of striking. Of the total votes cast, 84 percent approved strike action.

There were 213 work stoppages in 1945 which followed strike votes. These comprised 4.5 percent of the total strikes and lock-outs occurring in the year; the number of workers involved in such stoppages was 736,000 or 21.2 percent of the workers involved in all stoppages; and idleness in these stoppages amounted to 15,095,000 man-days or 39.7 percent of the total idleness during the year.

The average number of workers involved in the 213 strikes was 3,454, as compared with averages of 1,426 during 1944 and 730 workers for all strikes and lock-outs in 1945. Idleness per worker involved in the 213 strikes was 20.5 days as compared with 11.0 days for all 1945 stoppages. On the average, 23 days elapsed between the time the votes were taken and the time the strikes occurred.

Wages were an issue in three-fourths of these strikes, and 30 percent of them resulted from noncompliance by either the workers or management with directives or decisions of the War Labor Board. In 84 instances the War Labor Board was not involved in any way, and disputes were settled either by the parties themselves or through the aid of State and Federal conciliation services.

Scope and Method

Coverage.—The Bureau's statistics include all known work stoppages arising from labor-management disputes in the continental United States, which involve as many as six workers and last as long as a full day or shift. They include all such stoppages regardless of whether the workers or employers initiate them. Stoppages involving fewer than six workers and lasting less than a full workday or shift are excluded, principally because it is impossible to trace and get any detail about all such minor stoppages. Furthermore, these disputes are usually of little importance, often arising from misunderstandings which are cleared up within a few minutes or a few hours with no significant interruption in production.

Collection of data.—The Bureau receives press clippings on labor disputes from about 400 daily newspapers throughout the country and

⁴ 57 Stat. 163 (1943).

more than 250 labor and industry papers and journals. It also obtains reports directly from Federal and State agencies which deal with industrial disputes. Upon receipt of the notices, detailed questionnaires are sent to the companies, unions, and impartial agencies involved in each stoppage, to get first-hand and verified information concerning the number of workers involved, duration of the stoppage, major issues, methods of settlement, results, and other data.

Quantitative measures.—Stoppages caused by labor-management disputes are measured for statistical purposes by their number, the workers involved, and total man-days of idleness, but the statistical record alone cannot portray the full impact of many strikes which may seriously affect related and dependent industries and the general public. In an industry vital to the public welfare, such as transportation or a public utility, the number of workers directly engaged in a stoppage may be small but the effect far-reaching. In a power and light company strike only a few hundred employees may be involved, yet homes, factories, and, in fact, the entire industrial life of the city or area may be disrupted or paralyzed. The over-all effects of such a stoppage are *not* included in the Bureau's statistical series on work stoppages.

The figures for each stoppage include all workers in any plant who are made idle during a dispute in that plant, but do not include workers or idleness in other plants of the same or other companies which may be indirectly affected through curtailment of production because of failure to get materials from the struck plant. For example, if maintenance workers in an automobile-engine plant strike and thereby cause the entire plant to close, all workers idle in the plant during the dispute are counted as involved in the strike. However, if in addition an automobile-assembly plant closes or curtails production because it cannot obtain engines from the struck plant, idleness in the assembly plant is not counted. This policy is followed because it is impossible to obtain accurate information concerning the indirect secondary or tertiary effects of all stoppages.

Analysis of data.—Strikes and lock-outs, by their very nature, lead to differences of viewpoint and approach in their measurement and classification. Since they are controversies in which the employers, the workers, and the public are deeply concerned, each group naturally tends to interpret and evaluate the situation from its own, often strictly partisan, point of view. This divergency of outlook persists throughout every phase of the statistical treatment of strikes and lock-outs—definition, unit of measurement, extent, causes, and results. Furthermore, the facts with reference to strikes and lock-outs very often are too complex or indeterminate to permit accurate and simple classification by any approach. Causes leading up to any one dispute may be many and varied, and the basic causes may never be actually voiced by either party; so also with the outcome, especially when the dispute ends with no written agreement.

In view of these divergencies of approach as well as of the difficulty in getting sufficiently detailed information, a portion of the statistics on strikes and lock-outs is necessarily based on estimates and judgment. Nevertheless, through the use of specific definitions and the adoption of broad general policies, the Bureau tries to obtain the highest possible degree of comparability and uniformity of treatment.

Progress of State Minimum-Wage Legislation, 1943-45

By ALICE ANGUS and LORETTA SULLIVAN, U. S. Women's Bureau

THE end of the war has brought renewed importance to the establishment of State minimum-wage rates, particularly in service industries. As war jobs in manufacturing have declined, large numbers of women workers have found it necessary to seek reemployment in laundries, hotels and restaurants, beauty shops, and other service industries which, for the most part, are not covered by minimum rates established under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act. In some service establishments, wage rates increased considerably during the war, particularly in war-industry areas where employers were most affected by the tight labor supply, expanded union organization, and National War Labor Board policy. In other establishments, the war brought little or no change in the traditionally low wage rates paid in these industries.

During the war, minimum-wage activity was largely confined to a few States. For the most part, legal minimum-wage rates in effect at the end of the war had been established for some time, either during the early 1940's or even during the depression period of the 1930's. As the war drew to a close, however, State minimum-wage action became urgent in order to make permanent such wartime gains as had been achieved in going wage rates, and to help close the gap between legal minimum wages and the increased cost of living.

Early in 1945, a number of States announced plans to revise all their minimum-wage orders. By December, wage-board meetings were in progress or work had been completed in the District of Columbia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, and Utah. California and Washington had held public hearings prior to calling wage boards, while Connecticut, Minnesota, and Wisconsin were engaged in making cost-of-living surveys preparatory to revising existing wage orders. It is expected that work begun in 1945 will lead in 1946 to establishment of higher minimum-wage rates in a majority of States having laws of the wage-board type.

Enacted Legislation

No new minimum-wage laws were enacted in the 3-year period. Some amendments were adopted, however, which have considerable significance from the standpoint of minimum-wage progress and probable future developments in this field. These included the raising of the statutory minimum-wage rates for women in two States and in Hawaii, and the extension of wage-order coverage to men in two States.

In 1943, South Dakota increased its statutory minimum rate from \$12 to \$15 per week in cities of 2,500 population or over, effective for the duration of the war.

The Hawaii wage-hour law was amended to increase the statutory minimum-wage rate from 25 to 30 cents an hour for the Island of Oahu, including Honolulu, and from 20 to 25 cents for other islands.

In 1944, New York amended its minimum-wage law to prohibit the employment of men at less than the minimum rate established for women and minors in occupations covered by wage orders.

In 1945, Rhode Island amended its minimum-wage law in a manner similar to New York, extending supplementary protection to men. Nevada amended its law to increase the daily statutory rate from \$3 to \$4, the weekly rate from \$18 to \$24; it also established a 50-cent minimum hourly rate. South Dakota made permanent its 1943 amendment which had raised the statutory minimum in the larger communities of the State. Puerto Rico amended its minimum-wage law to provide for a membership of 3 instead of 9 on its minimum-wage board, revised its procedural provisions, and authorized investigation of several industries simultaneously. Hawaii amended its wage-and-hour act to raise the minimum hourly rates from 25 and 30 cents on the various islands to a uniform rate of 40 cents, except that lower rates could be set for employees 14 years and under. The amendment also removed geographical differentials, tightened enforcement provisions, and extended employee coverage to include specified agricultural workers, workers dealing with aquatic life, and employees in specified transportation industries.

Proposed Legislation

Proposed State legislation is significant in that it shows increasing interest in safeguarding wage levels through establishment of minimum-wage rates. This was particularly evident in 1945 when bills providing for minimum wages were introduced in legislatures of 22 States, exactly half of those in session that year.¹

Proposed legislation consisted of (1) bills to amend existing laws, introduced in 12 States, and (2) bills to establish new laws, introduced in 17 States.

Proposed amendments introduced in 1945 in 12 States (Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and South Dakota) are of special significance because they indicate an effort to improve and strengthen existing legislation and point to the prevailing trend. Most numerous among the proposed amendments were those extending coverage to men. Of the State minimum-wage laws now in effect, none except that of Oklahoma was originally enacted to apply to men as well as to women and minors. The Oklahoma law was subsequently invalidated for men because of its defective title. Prior to January 1943, Connecticut was the only State that had amended its minimum-wage law to cover men. In 1944, New York, as previously noted, amended its law to extend supplementary protection to men.

In the 1945 legislative sessions, bills to extend coverage to men were introduced in five States. Such a bill was enacted into law in Rhode Island. The bills in California, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Pennsylvania were not enacted. Legislation was also introduced to extend occupational coverage in two States: In New York, to domestic

¹ In Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin, only one bill on this subject was introduced. In California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island, two or more bills were introduced. Nevada and South Dakota were the only States in which all proposed legislation introduced on this subject was enacted.

workers in private homes; in New Jersey, to hotel employees. Neither measure was adopted.

Bills to amend existing minimum-wage laws of the wage-board type by the addition of a statutory rate were introduced in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Ohio. The minimum rates proposed were 40 cents per hour in Connecticut and Ohio and 50 cents in Massachusetts. Only one bill, in Massachusetts, provided for overtime pay based on the employee's regular rate for work beyond a specified number of hours. Such legislation, had it been successful, would have given all covered workers the immediate benefit of a minimum-wage rate, without wage-board action. As the proposed amendments did not provide for repeal of the wage-board provisions in the existing minimum-wage laws in these States, the amended laws would have permitted wage boards to increase the statutory rate for individual industries as circumstances warranted, thus obviating the danger of "freezing" minimum-wage rates at the statutory level.

The three States which now have statutory rate laws in effect (Arkansas, Nevada, and South Dakota) had amendments to raise such rates under consideration. In Arkansas, the only State of the group in which the present statutory-rate law also provides for wage-board action, the bill to raise the statutory rate was not enacted.

In two States, unsuccessful attempts were made to strengthen procedural provisions of existing laws. In New York, one bill proposed to eliminate the directory period in wage orders; another provided that a court action brought by an employer to test the validity or application of an order would not operate to stay its enforcement. In Illinois, an amendment proposed a uniform method of judicial review.

Proposed new laws relating to establishment of minimum-wage rates were introduced in 17 States (Alabama, California, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin). An interesting side light is the fact that about two-thirds of such States already had minimum-wage laws on their statute books. The proposed new legislation had the same general objectives as the bills to amend existing laws previously discussed, i. e., coverage of men as well as women and minors, and a minimum-wage rate fixed in the law which would give covered workers minimum-wage protection as soon as the law became effective.

In 15 of these States, bills calling for both general worker coverage and a statutory minimum rate were introduced. The statutory rate most commonly specified in such bills was 40 cents an hour; bills in five States called for a higher minimum rate, and in three States for a lower minimum. In all but two States, statutory-rate provisions also required overtime pay. In five States, the bills provided for an initial statutory rate to be superseded by a higher rate after the statute had been in operation for a specified period of time.

In 10 States in this group (Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Wisconsin), the bills provided for general worker coverage, a statutory minimum with provision for overtime pay based on the employee's regular rate, and the establishment of wage boards empowered to recommend wage rates for individual industries. In the five other

States (Alabama, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Texas), the proposed legislation was similar except that it did not provide for wage boards, thus lacking the flexibility generally considered desirable as a means of adjusting wage rates to particular industries and furnishing workers other supplementary protection.

In the remaining two States (California and Minnesota) in which new legislation was introduced, the bills were of a special character. In Minnesota the proposed legislation was a modification of the existing law for women and minors, designed to authorize a particular type of procedure in issuing wage orders; it did not cover men but provided for payment of overtime beyond 40 hours, based on the employee's regular rate. In California the proposed statute applied only to domestic workers in private households. It did not set a statutory rate, and, although as originally introduced it applied to all workers, it was subsequently revised to cover female workers only.

*Wage Orders*²

In the 3-year period January 1943 to December 1945, six States (California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Pennsylvania) issued a total of 18 wage orders. In addition, four States (Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island) made mandatory eight wage orders that were previously directory orders. Wisconsin issued its annual order for the canning industry, which provides for overtime based on the employee's regular rate. Puerto Rico issued six industry orders, applicable to all employees, under authority of its new law enacted in 1941; the minimum-wage law for women enacted prior to 1941 is still in effect for industries not covered by wage orders.

Included in the 18 State wage orders which became effective during this period are 12 revised orders and 6 orders for industries not previously covered. In all cases, the revised orders established higher rates than those they replaced. A majority of the orders, both those revising previous rates and those covering new industries, established a basic wage rate of 40 cents or higher for at least some of the workers covered by the order.

The most extensive piece of work was done in California, where the program of wage-order revision begun in 1942 was completed in 1943. Revised orders were issued for five industries (canning and preserving; mercantile; laundry; public housekeeping; industries handling farm products after harvest) and for the professional, technical, clerical, and similar occupations. A uniform minimum-wage rate of \$18 for a 40-hour week was established in each revised order except one; a 50-cent hourly rate was established in the order applicable to industries handling farm products. In addition, new orders were issued for two industries not previously covered by wage orders in any State—the transportation and amusement industries, in which minimum rates of \$20 for a 40-hour week or 50 cents an hour were established.

In 1944, Oregon again revised several of its 1941 orders to establish basic rates of 40 cents an hour in three industries—laundry, cleaning,

² A detailed table showing provisions in each of the wage orders issued by the various States during the period January 1943–December 1945, will be included with reprints of this article.

and dyeing; mercantile; and public housekeeping. Massachusetts revised three existing orders. In the laundry and dry-cleaning industry and in the bread and bakery industry, a basic rate of 40 cents an hour was set; in the mercantile industry, the revised order established a guaranteed wage of \$17 for a week of 36 to 48 hours.

In 1943, Pennsylvania issued a new wage order for the restaurant industry, and in New Jersey wage orders for both the restaurant and the beauty-culture industries became effective. In both States these orders were for industries not previously covered. The New Jersey beauty-culture order is noteworthy in that it requires overtime based on one and one-half times the minimum to be paid for hours over 48 a week. Such an overtime provision has the general effect of reducing working hours to the point at which the overtime rate becomes applicable. Since the New Jersey maximum 54-hour-week law for women does not cover beauty parlors, the overtime provision in this wage order serves a double purpose.

The most recent order establishing new occupational coverage in the period under consideration is the retail-trade order in New York, which became effective as a directory order in November 1945. It establishes a weekly wage of \$21 for a workweek of over 30 to 40 hours, and requires overtime pay based on one and one-half times the minimum pro rata hourly rate for work beyond 40 hours a week. This order is the first New York order to be issued since coverage of the New York minimum-wage law was extended to men in 1944. In establishing a weekly rate for a 30- to 40-hour workweek it may be expected to strengthen the present trend toward a maximum 40-hour week in the industry. Weekly wage provisions, of which this is an example, are increasingly being adopted as the basic wage provisions in State minimum-wage orders, in place of a straight hourly rate. Such provisions have the advantage of assuring receipt of a full cost-of-living wage to all regular workers not only during weeks when they are employed the full weekly hours but also during weeks when they are subject, through no fault of their own, to irregular hours and undertime.

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Employment Situation in Latin America¹

Summary

THERE is no indication that an over-all labor shortage occurred throughout Latin America during World War II or that the reconversion period resulted in serious unemployment after VJ-day. Employment for wages in industrialized agriculture, manufacturing, extractive industries, public works, transportation, and other services had been increasing in many regions in Latin America before the outbreak of the war and continued to increase during the war period, despite handicaps resulting from loss of some prewar markets, and the difficulty of obtaining certain raw materials and equipment.

A large proportion of the workers in all the Latin American countries continued, however, to work in agriculture, many of them on a subsistence basis and frequently not fully employed, but so far from industrial centers and those producing strategic materials that they were almost untouched by war activities. Such statistics of industrial employment or unemployment as are available cover a smaller proportion of the total labor force than is the case in more highly industrialized countries.

This article presents the available material on the employment situation in 12 countries—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela—during and after the war period.

Over a period of years, the increase in industrial employment appears to have been steadiest in Argentina; almost four-fifths of the population is urban. After 1939 more than a quarter million persons were added to industry, and even agriculture is considerably mechanized. Between 1929 and 1938 Bolivian manufactures, aided by import restrictions, so developed that a decline occurred in imports of certain consumer commodities. Brazil had laid the foundation of industry by 1938. The volume of manufacturing employment in Chile was about the same in 1940 as in 1930, whereas the number of employed in extractive industries increased by nearly a fourth, although the demand for nitrates did not return to the level maintained during World War I. Colombian industry was growing during this period, as shown by the increase in imports of machinery and the decline in those of textiles. Mexico had achieved a considerable manufacturing industry before 1939, which developed substantially during World War II in spite of shortages of raw materials; from 1940 to 1945 the number of factory employees increased from 390,000 to 512,400 and the total number of factories from 13,510 to 28,513. Although agriculture and mining still dominate the economy of Peru, some progress has been made in manufacturing. Foreign-made cotton textiles have been displaced to a considerable extent, and the chemical, leather goods, and cement industries have developed greatly.

¹ Prepared by James R. Mock and Eugene D. Owen of the Bureau's Foreign Labor Conditions Staff and under the direction of Faith M. Williams. The materials for this report were taken from official and other publications of the countries covered and from reports of the U. S. Foreign Service and the Inter-American Statistical Institute. Data on postwar plans, restrictions on employment of foreigners, and such employment statistics as are available will be included in the reprint of this article.

No notable development took place in industrial employment in Ecuador or Paraguay in the 1930's or during the war period. Such changes as occurred in Costa Rica were in semiagricultural pursuits. Changes were minor in Uruguay; light manufacturing operated at a high level during the war years, although management has been conservative in expanding. Venezuelan industry showed some increase, beginning with the end of the Gómez regime in 1935, but the ease of water transportation and the great buying power in foreign markets produced by the country's petroleum exports discouraged the development of domestic manufactures.

The effect of hostilities and German U-boat warfare on shipping was uneven in the different countries. In some, exports were curtailed sharply; with others, the United Nations entered into trade agreements and kept the sea lanes open to permit exports from Latin America in greater-than-usual volume. As a result of shipping difficulties there was a decline in imports of manufactured goods, necessitating increased manufacture for domestic use or for export to nearby countries. All of the above types of production, whether for export or home use, resulted in increased internal transportation and communication systems. Some public works were also undertaken. Thus, labor was drawn from the farms to work on all these projects. Migration to the United States of workers from Mexico and other regions lessened the size of the labor force and absorbed the potentially unemployed.

Arrangements by the Allies to take meat from Argentina, food from Costa Rica, rubber from Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador, and minerals from Brazil, Bolivia, and Chile, the setting up of military bases by the United States, and the migration of agricultural laborers for work on farms in the United States aided in keeping labor employed. When the agreements lapsed, dislocations in employment occurred in the respective labor markets but to a lesser extent than would obtain in industrialized nations.

Situation in 1945

EFFECT OF END OF WAR ON EMPLOYMENT

No serious decline in employment resulted immediately after World War II. In Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador the situation was mixed, with surpluses and shortages of workers in different pursuits; no great change occurred in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay. The expected unemployment did not materialize in Chile; the situation was satisfactory in Costa Rica and Venezuela; reports from Mexico showed no evidence of reconversion unemployment there; and in Peru there was even a labor scarcity.

Industrial activity and employment in Brazil declined slightly in the latter part of 1944, and this situation continued into 1945. Untrained workers who had been attracted to industrial centers by higher wages showed no inclination to return to agricultural or pastoral areas even though opportunities for employment in industry were less plentiful. At the same time, scarcities of some types of employees persisted. After hostilities ceased, however, industrial establishments tended to operate at or near capacity. Mining activity also remained at about the wartime level after the purchasing agreements with the

United Nations ended, but notable exceptions occurred in the extraction of tantalite and beryl, for which the United States terminated purchases. Immigration, which had been restricted by decree law No. 3175 of April 7, 1941, was permitted to be resumed (decree law No. 7575 of May 21, 1945) owing to the shortage of labor, particularly in agriculture.

In Colombia, work opportunities diminished in all types of transportation in 1945, owing to the lack of machinery, cars, and related equipment, but industrial employment increased. Agriculture in Ecuador was short of workers because rural labor tended to shift to other more remunerative employment. At the same time, employment lagged in the Province of Esmeraldas (on the northern coast of Ecuador) as a result of the almost complete paralysis of export activity through the port of Esmeraldas.

Since British buying was maintained in Argentina after VE-Day and since throughout most of the war period Argentina had no war contracts with the United States, the termination of the war did not appear to make any difference in the employment situation. In Bolivia, employment did not change but apprehension existed owing to the reduced price of tin and uncertainties regarding other economic and social measures. Both Paraguay and Uruguay were without war contracts and thus little affected by the termination of war.

In Chile, publicly expressed fears of widespread unemployment proved groundless. The termination of the United States Commercial Company copper-purchase contracts brought comparatively little shift of workers from one industry to another. A high employment level was reported in the third quarter of the year. Several thousand extra workers were hired for the nitrate industry to meet the increased demand for Chilean nitrate in the world market. Expanded public works appeared adequate to absorb any workers released from the copper industry who were not needed for nitrate production.

The situation was generally satisfactory in Costa Rica. Occasional unemployment arose from shortages of materials, as, for example, in construction and in industries dependent on sugar which was in short supply, and also in agriculture owing to seasonal factors. A labor shortage existed in the banana industry from August through November. Conditions were encouraging in Venezuela. The active demand for petroleum products and the better supply of tankers resulted in increased employment for petroleum workers. Government public works attracted a considerable volume of labor, and manufactures continued at or near capacity. A decree prohibiting eviction of peons from the land retarded a cityward movement.

In Mexico, labor continued to be almost fully employed during 1945. In areas adjoining the United States, industrial and agricultural workers were scarce as they had been moving over the border to obtain work. Except in Mérida and San Luis Potosí, unemployment was practically unknown in the second quarter of the year; in those areas many of the unemployed had returned from the United States, and others had congregated there in the hope of being engaged in the United States.²

Reports for January 1945 indicated that in Peru the existing labor

² Entrance of Mexican workers into the U. S. was accelerated by an agreement made by the two Governments. Over 118,000 agricultural and over 80,000 railroad workers were brought to the United States in 1942-44. By the terms of their contracts, 10 percent of the worker's pay was deducted and refunded to him on return to his place of origin.

force was inadequate to meet the demand for either unskilled farm labor or skilled workers and for factory workers. Although the public-works program was reduced by the end of March, the labor shortages persisted. Later reports indicated no decided change in the labor situation.

DECONTROL MEASURES

As few direct employment controls were introduced in these countries during the war period, the end of the war brought few changes in the legal status of the workers. For Bolivia, which had established the General Bureau for the Coordination of Mobilization, no information is presently available to show whether controls have been relaxed or abolished. Brazil started to narrow the industrial coverage of the job-freezing regulations in the textile industry before hostilities ended. During the first quarter of 1945, silk-mill labor was permitted to leave that branch of the industry but was required to move into other textile employment. On December 13, 1945 (decree law No. 8363) the war-time mobilization provisions, including job freezing, were revoked throughout the textile industry.

Certain controls that affected the employment status of workers were dropped. In Chile, the antistrike provision affecting workers in essential industries was abrogated after the end of the war. Colombia had relaxed the state-of-siege regulations in November 1944, and had no others.

The Mexican Government rapidly relinquished its emergency powers after the cessation of hostilities. The sweeping emergency powers vested in the President by the Congress in an act of June 1, 1942, expired on September 30, 1945. To avoid the dangers inherent in the sudden termination of controls, substitute legislation was passed, effective October 1, 1945, ratifying and extending certain economic and fiscal measures, including emergency wage increases and obligatory collective work contracts. Bolivia also adopted a postwar protective measure by creating an Office of Reemployment, to facilitate placement of any persons who lost their jobs in the mines.

LONG-TERM PLANNING

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru have established national planning commissions or development corporations in which the governments are working closely with industry in making plans for expanding public works (particularly transportation and power) and establishing new industries. In a number of these countries, the plans contemplate the investment of public funds where it is thought that private capital will not be adequate for the developments which are regarded as necessary. Reports of active participation by labor groups in long-range planning have come to this country only from Mexico. On April 7, 1945, the National Association of Manufacturers of Mexico and the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) jointly stated their intention of cooperating in the economic development of their country. Accordingly, on August 22, 1945, they transmitted a plan to the President to transform domestically produced products into finished goods within Mexico. CTM also has its own postwar planning committee. A report issued in

January 1945 stated that this body was formulating plans for the participation of labor in the reconversion program.

In Costa Rica and Paraguay postwar plans have emphasized the development of agriculture. Paraguay is carrying through a plan to increase the number of small landholders.

Some of these countries report labor shortages and are making plans to encourage immigration of agricultural labor and skilled industrial workers. Bolivia, Brazil, Peru, and Venezuela either have announced plans for facilitating the immigration of certain types of workers, or have stated that such plans are under consideration.

Distribution of Labor Force

The available information regarding distribution of the labor force in the Latin American countries covered indicates considerable variation in the percent of the respective populations classed as gainful workers. This may partially result from differences in the methods of counting those having an occupation when the censuses were taken and the estimates were made. For this reason, the ratio of the gainful population to the total should be used with caution. The percentages given in table 1 may be compared with figures on the proportion of the total population gainfully occupied shown by the Census of the United States in 1940 (39.5 percent) and by the 1941 Census of Canada (36.5 percent).

TABLE 1.—*Relation of Gainful Population to Total Population in 11 Latin American Countries, for Recent Years*

Country and date	Total population	Gainful population	Gainful population as percent of total population
Argentina: ¹			
1938 (estimate).....	12,760,880	5,560,000	43.6
1942 (estimate).....	13,516,927	5,061,000	37.4
Bolivia: 1942 (estimate) ²	3,533,900	(³)	(³)
Brazil: 1940 (census).....	41,565,083	(¹)	(¹)
Chile:			
1930 (census).....	4,287,445	1,241,013	28.9
1940 (census).....	5,023,529	1,768,721	35.2
Colombia: 1938 (census).....	8,701,816	4,487,585	51.6
Ecuador: 1942 (census).....	3,089,078	(³)	(³)
Mexico:			
1930 (census).....	16,552,722	5,165,803	31.2
1940 (census).....	19,653,552	6,131,908	31.2
Paraguay: 1941.....	1,040,420	(³)	(³)
Peru: 1940 (census).....	7,023,111	2,475,339	35.2
Uruguay: 1941 (estimate) ⁴	2,185,626	685,950	31.4
Venezuela: 1941 (census) ⁵	2,037,034	663,368	32.6

¹ Estimates: 1938, by Unión Industrial Argentina, (in *Revista de Economía Argentina*, June 1939, p. 187); 1942, by Banco Central de la República Argentina (in *Revista de Economía Argentina*, June 1945, p. 311).

² Estimate given by Dirección General de Estadística, of Bolivia, in letter to Pan American Union dated May 19, 1943.

³ Not available.

⁴ Based on Uruguayan Industrial Census of 1936.

⁵ Figures on population and gainful population of Venezuela are based on census data from the Federal District and the first 11 States (alphabetically arranged) for which data have been published. These areas include 52.9 percent of the total population (excluding estimate of Indians)—the only part of the population for which industrial distribution is available at this time.

For seven Latin American countries, detailed information on the gainfully employed population is given in table 2, which shows the distribution by large industrial classes on the dates to which the most

recent statistics relate. The table indicates that the proportion of workers accounted for by the extractive industries was fairly small in every instance, ranging from 0.4 percent of the gainful population in Uruguay to 5.4 percent in Chile. Some of these extractive industries are, of course, notable in the low ratio of human labor to total product. Manufacturing accounted for slightly over 10 percent of the gainfully occupied in Mexico and ranged upward to 18.4 percent in Argentina. Here again, however, comparisons should be made with caution.

TABLE 2.—*Distribution of Labor Force by Principal Groups in 7 Latin American Countries, for Recent Years*

Industry group	Argentina: 1942 (estimate) ¹		Chile: 1940 (census)		Colombia: 1938 (census)		Mexico: 1940 (census)	
	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total
Total gainful population.....	5,061,000	100.0	1,768,721	100.0	4,487,585	100.0	6,131,908	100.0
Agriculture, etc.....	2,000,000	39.5	619,563	35.0	3,320,480	74.0	4,396,703	71.7
Extractive industries.....	(²)	(²)	96,090	5.4	72,069	1.6	106,706	1.8
Manufacturing.....	930,000	18.4	297,979	16.9	527,246	11.7	639,687	10.4
Commerce.....	747,000	14.8	162,308	9.2	153,725	3.4	552,457	9.0
Transportation.....	283,000	5.6	74,518	4.2	58,570	1.3	149,469	2.4
Other.....	1,101,000	21.7	518,263	29.3	357,595	8.0	286,886	4.7

Industry group	Peru: 1940 (census)		Uruguay: 1941 (estimate) ³		Venezuela: (1941 cen- sus)	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total gainful population.....	2,475,339	100.0	685,950	100.0	663,368	100.0
Agriculture, etc.....	1,546,189	62.4	350,000	51.0	304,177	45.9
Extractive industries.....	44,694	1.8	2,500	.4	9,360	1.4
Manufacturing.....	380,281	15.4	83,350	12.2	120,870	18.2
Commerce.....	104,704	4.2	495,000	13.8	60,202	9.1
Transportation.....	51,079	2.1	27,700	4.0	35,487	5.3
Other.....	348,392	14.1	127,400	18.6	133,272	20.1

¹ Estimates by Banco Central de la República Argentina (in *Revista de Economía Argentina*, June 1945, p. 311).

² Not available.

³ Based on Uruguayan Industrial Census of 1936.

⁴ Includes banking.

⁵ Includes communications.

⁶ Includes services.

Table 2 shows the number of persons attached to agriculture and related pursuits as 74 percent of the gainfully employed workers in Colombia, 71.7 percent in Mexico, and 62.4 percent in Peru. The ratios were relatively low in Venezuela (45.9 percent) at the time of the 1941 census³ and in Chile (35.0 percent).

The latest census data for four Latin American countries, showing number of wage earners and also total annual pay rolls where available, are given in table 3. For purposes of comparison, data for Canada and the United States are also given. The dates on which the censuses were taken range from 1936 to 1942, and it should be borne in mind that important changes in the distribution of workers by industry occurred in most of these countries in that 6-year period.

³ Figures for only 52.9 percent of population available in April 1946.

TABLE 3.—*Distribution of Employment and Pay-Roll Data from Census of Manufactures of 6 Latin American Countries*¹

Industry group ²	Argentina: Census of 1941			Uruguay: Census of 1936			Chile: Census of 1937 ³		
	Number of workers	Percent of—		Number of workers	Percent of—		Number of workers	Percent of—	
		Work- ers	Pay		Work- ers	Pay		Work- ers	Pay
All groups.....	598,800	100.0	(⁴)	62,442	100.0	100.0	138,565	100.0	100.0
Food industry.....	103,309	17.4	(⁴)	17,388	27.9	25.1	23,378	16.9	9.8
Beverages.....	22,372	3.7	(⁴)	3,281	5.3	5.7	3,545	2.6	1.3
Tobacco.....	7,913	1.3	(⁴)	991	1.6	1.2	1,757	1.3	.5
Animal and vegetable fats and oils.....	4,693	.8	(⁴)	327	.5	.4	905	.6	.5
Chemical industry.....	19,851	3.3	(⁴)	1,574	2.5	2.4	4,985	3.6	1.7
Rubber industry.....	8,466	1.4	(⁴)	722	1.2	.7	268	.2	.1
Wood and cork.....	48,128	8.0	(⁴)	3,114	5.0	3.8	6,965	5.0	2.7
Pulp and paper.....	11,873	2.0	(⁴)	872	1.4	1.4	2,889	2.1	1.5
Printing, photography, and book-binding.....	22,962	3.8	(⁴)	2,335	3.7	4.8	5,292	3.8	3.0
Skin, hide, and leather.....	9,428	1.6	(⁴)	1,389	2.2	1.9	2,825	2.0	1.1
Textile industry.....	68,008	11.4	(⁴)	5,606	9.0	7.2	14,410	10.4	5.2
Wearing apparel.....	48,608	8.1	(⁴)	7,314	11.8	10.0	18,451	13.3	5.8
Electricity, gas, heat, water supply.....	13,272	2.2	(⁴)	4,546	7.3	13.9	4,989	3.6	2.6
Mineral fuels.....	3,816	.6	(⁴)	13	(⁵)	(⁵)	101	.1	(⁵)
Nonmetallic minerals.....	26,582	4.4	(⁴)	3,317	5.3	5.1	8,435	6.1	3.9
Smelting, casting, rolling, and forging, drawing of base metals.....	21,826	3.6	(⁴)	1,339	2.1	2.1	9,763	7.0	6.3
Articles of base metals.....	33,905	5.7	(⁴)	2,686	4.3	3.8	4,817	3.5	1.8
Machinery, electrical appliance, means of transport by land, water, air.....	65,567	11.0	(⁴)	4,147	6.6	8.8	3,868	2.8	1.7
Instruments, clocks, jewelry.....	1,255	.2	(⁴)	566	.9	.6	428	.3	.2
Other manufacturing industries.....	48,490	8.1	(⁴)	572	.9	.6	846	.6	.2
Industries not adequately described.....	8,476	1.4	(⁴)	343	.5	.5	19,648	14.2	50.1
All groups.....	Canada: Census of 1942			Venezuela: Census of 1936			United States: Census of 1939		
	974,734	100.0	100.0	40,447	100.0	100.0	7,525,954	100.0	100.0
Food industry.....	93,041	9.5	7.5	17,186	42.5	24.6	747,926	9.9	9.2
Beverages.....	12,362	1.3	1.3	2,293	5.7	6.4	70,111	.9	1.1
Tobacco.....	10,587	1.1	.6	2,099	5.1	4.9	87,525	1.2	.8
Animal and vegetable fats and oils.....	377	(⁵)	(⁵)	159	.4	.4	32,535	.4	.3
Chemical industry.....	78,247	8.0	7.8	930	2.3	3.4	217,351	2.9	3.3
Rubber industry.....	13,083	1.3	1.4	165	.4	.6	120,740	1.6	1.8
Wood and cork.....	78,223	8.0	6.2	1,485	3.7	5.0	288,144	3.8	3.1
Pulp and paper.....	46,327	4.8	5.2	66	.2	.1	264,716	3.5	3.5
Printing, photography and book-binding.....	24,993	2.6	2.5	974	2.4	8.0	324,535	4.3	5.6
Skin, hide, and leather.....	13,574	1.4	1.1	308	.8	1.1	99,640	1.3	1.2
Textile industry.....	57,397	5.9	4.5	2,649	6.5	8.1	881,584	11.7	8.6
Wearing apparel.....	110,013	11.3	7.6	6,057	15.0	17.9	1,243,377	16.5	12.3
Electricity, gas, heat, water supply.....	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	495	1.2	3.6	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Mineral fuels.....	7,615	.8	1.0	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	94,943	1.3	1.8
Nonmetallic minerals.....	17,047	1.7	1.7	2,245	5.5	5.8	298,007	4.0	3.9
Smelting, casting, rolling, and forging, drawing of base metals.....	74,546	7.6	9.8	32	.1	(⁵)	1,146,575	15.2	17.7
Articles of base metals.....	88,551	9.1	10.5	688	1.7	2.5	-----	-----	-----
Machinery, electrical appliance, means of transport by land, water, air.....	230,435	23.7	29.7	277	.7	.8	1,328,815	17.8	22.3
Instruments, clocks, jewelry.....	10,311	1.1	1.0	38	.1	.2	134,641	1.8	1.8
Other manufacturing industries.....	8,005	.8	.6	82	.2	.2	144,789	1.9	1.7
Industries not adequately described.....	-----	-----	-----	2,219	5.5	6.4	-----	-----	-----

¹ The Bureau is indebted to S. Woscoboinik of the Inter-American Statistical Institute for the data shown in this table.² Standard classification of League of Nations.³ The wages reported for Chile are weekly wages.⁴ The Argentine census does not show statistics of wages paid. Wages and salaries are reported together.⁵ Less than 0.05 of 1 percent.⁶ This group is not shown in the census.

Workers in the food industries formed the largest group in all of the countries covered, except the United States and Canada. The industries providing the largest employment were food, textile, and machinery in Argentina (39.8 percent of the total); food, textiles, and wearing apparel in Chile (40.6 percent) and Uruguay (48.7 percent); food, wearing apparel, and machinery in Canada (44.5 percent); and wearing apparel, smelting, and machinery in the United States (49.5 percent). In Venezuela, food and wearing apparel alone accounted for 57.5 percent of the workers when the 1936 census was taken.

Wartime Employment Situation

LABOR SHORTAGE AND SURPLUS

Throughout the war period many Latin American industries were handicapped by the reduction of overseas imports and by the fact that certain of their overseas markets for domestic products were cut off. In general, however, any unemployment caused by these disturbances was short. The development or expansion of industries producing war materials or consumer goods which had formerly been imported increased employment in manufacturing and in the extractive industries. There was little change in the extent of the underemployment in agriculture which is characteristic of these countries.

Wartime shortages of labor were often local and resulted mainly from the inadequacy of the supply of industrially trained personnel and from the difficulty of shifting the available workers from place to place. The employment situation differed from country to country and from fragmentary data appears to have been as indicated below.

Argentina had a serious drought in 1942 that affected the maize crop especially and caused the most serious agricultural unemployment; industrial employment, however, increased by more than a quarter of a million persons during World War II. In Brazil, throughout the war, unskilled labor appeared to be abundant, although there was a shortage of agricultural labor because of migration to war-stimulated urban areas and to industrial employment. Complaints of shortages of skilled and semiskilled workers (which constitute between 15 and 25 percent of the gainfully employed in industry) were chronic; the situation was particularly acute in coal mining and in the textile industry. Demand for Bolivian tin, tungsten, rubber, and cinchona caused such a demand for workers in that country that producers complained of labor shortages. In Colombia, the closing down of the banana market, the disruption of the transportation system, and other factors caused widespread unemployment in September 1942; during 1944, however, many industries experienced a continuing lack of technical employees.

Three of the countries covered (Chile, Costa Rica, and Mexico) seem to have maintained a fair equilibrium between jobs and workers, with only local dislocations. Labor surpluses in Chile were usually the result of lack of material. Costa Rica had practically no unemployment in the early war years; many skilled and unskilled workers were employed by the Pan-American Highway Commission and others found work on construction or on coffee, banana, or cacao plantations,

or on jobs in the Canal Zone. When work was suspended temporarily on the Military Highway early in 1944, the resultant unemployed were soon absorbed. In Mexico, unemployment was rare during the war, and labor was fully employed, except in a few localities; skilled labor was apparently at a premium.

In Peru, there was said to be work for everyone who desired it, owing to the variety of goods produced and the active markets for war materials under long-term agreements with the United Nations. Mines, industry, and agriculture had difficulty in getting enough labor. The public-works program tended to diminish the number of workers available for harvesting the 1944 rice and cotton crops, according to Peruvian agricultural leaders. The wartime growth of the Peruvian Government and its armed forces contributed to making the labor shortage acute.

Uruguay and Venezuela had unemployment problems. In Uruguay, a decree of July 20, 1940, created a winter relief fund which was to continue for the duration of hostilities in Europe. Even in ordinary times, the Venezuelan supply of unskilled labor is abundant. The excess of workers over jobs was increased when the war in Europe started.

Ecuador was insufficiently developed, industrially, to experience marked wartime changes in employment or unemployment. In Paraguay, about the end of 1944, the National Bureau of Labor stated that 10.8 percent of the 13,171 persons registered in industry and commerce were unemployed.

EMPLOYMENT CONTROLS

The staffing of new or expanded industrial enterprises in these Latin American countries was aided during the war by a number of measures which either increased the attractiveness of jobs or discouraged loss of working time. In general, employment controls were indirect, as contrasted with the direct controls used in the United States and Canada and by most belligerents.

Brazil was exceptional in that certain direct employment controls were introduced. The decree (No. 10,451 of September 16, 1942) which provided for general mobilization of military reserves also authorized action to provide for adequate manpower in industry. Under this authority, Order No. 16 (November 5, 1942) provided for the mobilization of labor to produce and transport coal in the State of Santa Catarina. Persons on their way to the Amazon Valley or already there, under contract to engage in the extraction of rubber, were not to be removed from their work to perform military service. The terms for the recruitment of 16,000 workers for the rubber industry in the Amazon Valley, which were agreed upon by the Rubber Development Corporation of the United States and the Government of Brazil, were approved by decree-law No. 5813 of September 14, 1943. The most sweeping of the employment-control measures provided for freezing workers on the job in the textile industry. The legislation was adopted on July 13, 1944 (decree law No. 6688) and was strengthened later in that year.

In Bolivia, employment-control machinery was established, but there is no evidence at hand to show that the powers were used. The

Bolivian General Bureau for the Coordination of Mobilization, formed on April 7, 1943, after Bolivia declared war against the Axis powers, was to provide personnel for various industries and other private enterprises in which a larger number of workers was needed to increase production, and was authorized to intervene in matters affecting labor productivity and to determine the advisability of rationing manpower.

Ecuador instituted conscription of males from 21 to 50 years of age for road work.

The remaining countries adopted regulations that affected employment status, but none compelling a particular employee to enter specified employment or to remain in the employ of a given employer or in an essential industry or at a given wage. Wartime measures affecting employment included (1) the granting of higher wages or extension of social insurance protection (as in Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay), (2) the lengthening by law of working hours (as in Argentina and Brazil), (3) insuring assistance to persons who might lose their jobs because plants were closed owing to blacklisting of the company, lack of raw materials, or elimination of markets (as in Chile, Uruguay and Venezuela), (4) antistrike measures (as in Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Paraguay), and (5) the compulsory arbitration of disputes (as in Colombia). Some of these provisions were intended to protect workers from unemployment and not solely to insure the staffing of enterprises.

EFFORTS TO DECREASE ABSENTEEISM

In an effort to reduce absenteeism, the Brazilian Government, by decree law No. 6688 of July 13, 1944, decreed that employees in the textile industry who were absent without just cause forfeited their overtime pay for the week in which the absence occurred. In Chile, on the basis of an investigation made in 1944, the Bureau of Labor stated that absenteeism averaged 7.8 percent during the war. The causes given were (1) intemperate use of alcohol after pay day, (2) sickness caused by bad housing, (3) bad transportation, and (4) accidents at work and outside of working hours. As a result of the findings, the Minister of Labor recommended to all labor inspectors that they urge employers and trade-unions to shift pay day from Saturday to Monday; he also recommended wage incentives for attendance, particularly on days following Sundays and holidays.

Programs for the improvement of health in certain mines in Brazil and Bolivia, developed in cooperation with the United States in order to raise labor efficiency during the war years, reduced loss in working time. As a result of the health work introduced in 1943, in a Brazilian mica region where malaria, typhoid, hookworm, and other tropical diseases were prevalent, absenteeism owing to illness was cut in half after 2 years. In Bolivia, the adoption of health, safety, and welfare plans late in 1943 was followed in the next year by an 11.3-percent drop in time lost because of injuries in one mine and an 18.3-percent decrease in absence caused by illness in another.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

With the exception of Colombia and Mexico, the countries dealt with have made, or are making, some effort to establish public placement facilities for workers.

Argentina passed legislation in 1913 providing for employment offices. The present National Employment Agency, under the National Labor Bureau, was authorized by decree of July 21, 1943. Bolivia's system is in process of organization, this being one of the purposes for which technicians from the United States Government were invited to Bolivia. Brazilian legislation provides for facilities for the placement of special groups in the population. An agency for placing immigrants in employment was established in Rio de Janeiro by decree law No. 406 of May 4, 1938, regulated by decree No. 3010 of August 20, 1938. Employment offices for maritime workers were provided for by decree law No. 3346 (June 12, 1941), and for certain labor unions by decree law No. 1402 (July 5, 1939). The São Paulo State Department of Labor maintains its own employment offices in São Paulo and in Santos. They are attached to the immigration service and work primarily in the placement of workers (including immigrants) in rural districts. The employment offices in Chile are under the General Labor Office. Special employment offices are maintained only in Santiago and Valparaíso; elsewhere, the offices of the labor inspectors are responsible for placement and serve as employment centers. In Costa Rica, upon the creation of the General Labor Office in the Ministry of Labor in September 1943, it undertook to establish a placement department and provided a book in which those seeking work were to write their names. Up to January 1944, no workers had declared themselves unemployed by this method. No information is available on the use of this system after VJ-day. Ecuador has a Government employment agency concerning which no details are available.

A Paraguayan decree law of December 18, 1937, provided for a Government employment agency; in 1944, two offices were maintained, in Asunción and Puerto Pinasco, respectively. In Peru, unemployment committees or boards function for each geographical Department. The Uruguayan employment service was provided for in legislation adopted on January 11, 1934, but as late as August 1943 had not been established; as a temporary substitute, an order of February 18, 1939, provided for local employment offices. The highway division of the Ministry of Public Works maintains registers of applicants, from which persons are chosen by lot for employment on its projects. An employment office for stevedores was provided for by law of October 21, 1944. A Venezuelan Government employment agency was prescribed in the Labor Code of July 16, 1936, and provision was also made for the regulation of existing private employment agencies.

The most recent statistics of employment-office activity in Chile show a marked decline from 1939 through 1942 in the number of

workers applying at these offices for positions, and an increase beginning in 1943. In December 1945, the number was at about the level prevailing in 1938 and 1944. Placements by the employment offices are always far below the number of applicants.

	Total applicants	Total placements
1932.....	107,296	4,765
1938.....	4,578	1,100
1942.....	2,523	665
1944.....	4,368	1,095
December 1945.....	4,211	978

The total registered unemployed in Peru were as follows, during the years 1935-43:

	Number on register		Number on register
1935.....	703	1940.....	2,259
1936.....	821	1941.....	855
1937.....	1,449	1942.....	981
1938.....	1,104	1943.....	606
1939.....	949		

The only other country for which employment-office statistics are available is Venezuela. Average monthly placements in 1939 and 1940 are shown below:

	1939	1940
Total placements.....	401	601
Government agencies.....	250	506
Private agencies.....	151	95

Employment Conditions

Wartime Railroad Employment

THE Second World War made a great demand on transportation services of class I steam railways. The volume of freight and passenger traffic handled by these railways in 1944 surpassed all preceding years of railroad performance.¹ The number of revenue tons carried 1 mile (i. e., ton-miles) doubled in 1944 in comparison with the 1939 figure, and the number of passengers carried 1 mile (passenger-miles) quadrupled.

The increase in the wartime railroad traffic was not accompanied, however, by corresponding increases in railroad employment or additions to railroad equipment. Between 1939 and 1944, the average number of employees of class I steam railways, rose 43 percent. Additions to railroad equipment, as measured by increases in tractive effort of locomotives,² freight-car loading capacity, and passenger-car seating capacity, were very moderate, at the most 10 percent in the case of freight-car capacity. The success of railroads in handling the wartime traffic resulted to a large extent from more effective utilization of railway track and equipment facilities.

The continuous expansion in the average number of employees of class I steam railways during the second World War is shown below:

	Number of employees (thousands)	Percent of increase over 1939
1939-----	988	----
1940-----	1,027	4.0
1941-----	1,140	15.4
1942-----	1,271	28.6
1943-----	1,355	37.2
1944-----	1,414	43.1
1945-----	1,420	43.7

These increases in railroad employment did not coincide with changes in manufacturing and other employment during the war. Manufacturing employment, for instance, reached its wartime peak in 1943, when the average number of employees was about 70 percent greater than it had been in 1939.

Railroad Employment by States

The distribution of employees of class I steam railways by States, at the middle of July 1940 and at the middle of September 1945, is shown

¹ Based on Statistics of Railways in the United States, published by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

² The tractive power of a locomotive is the number of pounds of power required to give the locomotive its initial start or pull (for technical definition of the term "tractive effort" see Railway Statistical Terms, Statement No. 4119, June 1941, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, pp. 49, 50).

in the accompanying table. The number of employees increased in every State during this period, from 7.8 percent in Wisconsin to 101.6 percent in Arizona.

The expansion in employment in this 5-year period took place chiefly on railroads which had 5,000 or more employees in July 1940; these roads accounted for over 90 percent of the total increase for all class I steam railways which reported employment in both periods.

Not every class I steam railway increased its employment during the second World War. Of 128 class I steam railways reporting employment in July 1940, 20 had an actual decrease in the number of employees and each of 34 others had a negligible increase (i. e., of fewer than 200 employees).

Employment on Class I Steam Railways, by States, July 1940 and September 1945¹

State	Number of employees at middle of month		Increase	Percent of increase
	July 1940	September 1945		
United States.....	1,045,419	1,408,421	363,002	34.7
Alabama.....	13,577	21,528	7,951	58.6
Arizona.....	5,555	11,199	5,644	101.6
Arkansas.....	10,274	15,465	5,191	50.5
California.....	46,681	78,006	31,385	67.3
Colorado.....	13,074	18,610	5,536	42.3
Connecticut.....	9,627	11,701	2,074	21.5
Delaware.....	3,849	5,531	1,682	43.7
District of Columbia.....	2,142	4,228	2,086	97.4
Florida.....	11,538	16,532	4,994	43.3
Georgia.....	19,419	28,267	8,848	45.6
Idaho.....	5,436	7,368	1,932	35.5
Illinois.....	86,875	111,431	24,556	28.3
Indiana.....	32,845	45,852	13,007	39.6
Iowa.....	24,023	27,840	3,817	15.9
Kansas.....	25,208	33,920	8,712	34.6
Kentucky.....	26,124	31,909	5,785	22.1
Louisiana.....	11,106	16,697	5,591	50.3
Maine.....	5,307	6,071	764	14.4
Maryland.....	17,728	26,145	8,417	47.5
Massachusetts.....	20,642	24,351	3,709	18.0
Michigan.....	29,061	32,534	3,473	12.0
Minnesota.....	32,184	38,669	6,485	20.1
Mississippi.....	8,270	11,216	2,946	35.6
Missouri.....	30,719	42,280	11,561	37.6
Montana.....	10,196	14,996	4,800	47.1
Nebraska.....	17,312	24,832	7,520	43.4
Nevada.....	3,578	6,402	2,824	78.9
New Hampshire.....	2,581	3,302	721	27.9
New Jersey.....	33,917	37,260	3,343	9.9
New Mexico.....	5,552	9,679	4,127	74.3
New York.....	82,942	106,688	23,746	28.6
North Carolina.....	13,010	18,040	5,030	38.7
North Dakota.....	6,498	7,712	1,214	18.7
Ohio.....	70,222	92,759	22,537	32.1
Oklahoma.....	8,535	12,999	4,464	52.3
Oregon.....	8,910	16,577	7,667	86.0
Pennsylvania.....	113,441	147,253	33,812	29.8
Rhode Island.....	1,795	2,186	391	21.8
South Carolina.....	6,427	10,282	3,855	60.0
South Dakota.....	3,707	5,032	1,325	35.7
Tennessee.....	19,338	28,651	9,313	48.2
Texas.....	40,737	62,211	21,474	52.7
Utah.....	7,113	11,617	4,504	63.3
Vermont.....	3,408	3,767	359	10.5
Virginia.....	29,056	36,078	7,022	24.2
Washington.....	15,609	19,591	3,982	25.5
West Virginia.....	20,033	26,326	6,293	31.4
Wisconsin.....	23,830	25,680	1,850	7.8
Wyoming.....	6,468	11,151	4,683	72.4

¹ Based on data of Association of American Railroads and Interstate Commerce Commission.

Placement

Nonfarm Placements by U. S. Employment Service in 1945¹

PLACEMENTS numbering 9.8 million were made in nonagricultural jobs by the U. S. Employment Service in 1945. This volume represented a decline of a seventh from the wartime peak of 11.4 million in 1944, but more than 2½ times the number placed in 1940. For the first 7 months of 1945, placements actually exceeded those made in a similar period in the previous year, the drop occurring almost entirely since the end of World War II.

More than half of all the 1945 nonfarm placements were made in the manufacturing industries. In the war years 1943 and 1944, three-fifths of the total were in this field; in 1940, only one-fifth. Wartime shifts from 1940 to 1945 in the proportions of placements made in the principal divisions of industry are shown in table 1.

TABLE 1.—*Distribution of Nonfarm Placements Made by U. S. Employment Service, by Industry Division, 1940-45¹*

Industry division	Percent of placements					
	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Mining.....	1.5	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.7
Construction.....	6.7	6.3	10.7	23.2	19.9	17.8
Manufacturing.....	55.9	59.8	60.2	36.7	23.3	20.0
Transportation ²	8.1	7.8	4.2	3.2	3.0	2.7
Trade.....	10.3	8.7	6.4	9.8	17.2	18.4
Service.....	11.1	9.4	9.8	17.8	30.8	36.1
Other ³	6.4	6.5	7.6	8.7	5.2	4.3
All divisions.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Data are from Social Security Yearbook 1944 (Washington, 1945), and information supplied by Reports and Analysis Division, U. S. Employment Service.

² Includes communications and other public utilities.

³ Includes finance, insurance, and real estate, regular government agencies, Government relief projects, and establishments not elsewhere classified.

Classes of Placements

Occupational groups.—Of the major occupational groups in which nonagricultural placements were made in 1945, unskilled work ranked highest (table 2), accounting for more than half the placements (approximately 5.2 million). Semiskilled jobs represented more than

¹ Data are from information furnished by Reports and Analysis Division, U. S. Employment Service, Department of Labor, and Social Security Yearbook 1944 (Social Security Board, Federal Security Agency), Washington, 1945.

a seventh (about 1.5 million), and clerical and sales, service, and skilled openings each roughly a tenth. Less than 125,000 placements were made in the professional and managerial group (1.2 percent). In 1945, every major occupational group experienced a decrease in number of placements from the previous year, ranging from 6.1 percent in service jobs to 20.5 percent in skilled occupations. Although the proportion of placements made in the various occupational groups showed little change from 1944, marked shifts had occurred since 1940. Placements in unskilled jobs rose from less than a third of the 1940 total to more than half of the openings filled in 1944 and 1945. Service occupations, on the other hand, declined from 33 percent in 1941 to 11 percent in 1945.

TABLE 2.—Nonfarm Placements Made by U. S. Employment Service, by Class, 1944 and 1945¹

Class of placement	Number		Percent of change	Percentage distribution	
	1945	1944		1945	1944
Nonfarm placements.....	2 9,799,185	11,446,007	-14.4	100.0	100.0
Major occupational groups:					
Professional and managerial.....	121,567	132,956	-8.6	1.2	1.2
Clerical and sales.....	896,444	1,029,926	-13.0	9.1	9.0
Service.....	1,104,082	1,175,443	-6.1	11.3	10.3
Skilled.....	1,051,065	1,322,576	-20.5	10.7	11.6
Semiskilled.....	1,454,522	1,687,585	-13.8	14.8	14.7
Unskilled and other.....	5,171,505	6,097,521	-15.2	52.9	53.2
Race:					
White.....	7,921,410	9,390,802	-15.6	80.8	82.0
Nonwhite.....	1,877,775	2,055,205	-8.6	19.2	18.0
Sex:					
Men.....	6,838,640	7,643,475	-10.5	69.8	66.8
Women.....	2,960,545	3,802,532	-22.1	30.2	33.2
Veteran status:					
Veterans.....	3 1,194,578	4 806,139	+48.2	12.2	7.0
Nonveterans.....	8,604,607	10,639,868	-19.1	87.8	93.0
Handicapped.....	5 299,622	6 288,499	+3.9	* 100.0	* 100.0
Disabled veterans.....	7 134,842	(7)	(7)	* 45.0	(7)
Other.....	164,780	(7)	(7)	* 55.0	(7)

¹ Data are from information furnished by Reports and Analysis Division, U. S. Employment Service, and from Social Security Yearbook 1944 (Washington, 1945).

² Excludes 9,291 nonagricultural placements for which distribution by class was not reported.

³ Includes 1,036,923 World War II veterans; also 134,842 disabled veterans also shown under handicapped placements.

⁴ Data not available for number of disabled veterans for the entire year.

⁵ Includes the group of disabled veterans also classified under veterans.

⁶ Distribution of the handicapped only.

⁷ Data not available.

Race.—Nonagricultural placements of nonwhite referants decreased by less than 9 percent in 1945 to about 1.9 million (against a decline of well over 15 percent for white workers), and represented almost a fifth of total 1945 placements—a slight gain over the previous year. More than half of all service placements made in 1945 were of nonwhite workers, and this group of applicants had shown a steady increase in the percentage of such jobs obtained since 1941. Almost nine-tenths of nonwhite placements during the year fell into two major groups—service (30.3 percent) and unskilled occupations (58.4 percent)—the proportion in service being down 50 percent since 1941.

Women.—Placements of women in nonagricultural work dropped by over a fifth, from a level of 3.8 million in 1944 to slightly under 3.0 million in 1945. In contrast, placements of men (over two-thirds of

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total placements) declined by only a tenth, with a smaller numerical decrease than in placements of women, which represented less than a third of the total. The number of women placed in 1945, however, was almost double the number placed in 1940 (1.5 million). During the wartime activity of 1944, nearly two-thirds of all placements of women registrants were in manufacturing. Their concentration in service declined from 59.4 percent of total volume of female placements in 1941 to 18.5 percent in 1944 (increasing to 21.5 percent in 1945). The proportion of job openings filled by women in the skilled and unskilled classifications also decreased in 1945.

*Veterans.*²—In 1945, placement of veterans³ in nonfarm jobs increased to approximately 1.2 million,⁴ from 0.8 million in the previous year. This represented an increase of almost half, as contrasted with a decrease of about a fifth in nonveteran placements. Almost an eighth of all job openings filled in 1945 were made up of veteran placements (the proportion was 7 percent in 1944). In both 1944 and 1945, slightly under half of all veteran placements were made in unskilled occupations. In 1945, about 20 percent were in semiskilled jobs, 15 percent in skilled work, 8 percent in service, 8 percent in clerical and sales occupations, and 2 percent in the professional and managerial group. The proportion of veterans exceeded that of nonveterans in skilled and semiskilled labor by 4.5 and 5.6 percent, respectively, and by 1 percent in the professional and managerial group; but, significantly, it represented a smaller segment in unskilled work and in the service occupations.

Handicapped.—Total nonagricultural placements of handicapped referants in 1945 were approximately 300,000—only a slight increase (3.9 percent) over 1944. Disabled veterans⁵ accounted for 45 percent (about 135,000) of this group. In 1945 the placement of handicapped persons continued to be made after careful analysis.⁶ Over two-fifths (43 percent) were placed in unskilled occupations, 21 percent in semiskilled jobs, 12 percent in skilled work, 13 percent in service, almost 10 percent in clerical and sales positions, and 2 percent in the professional and managerial field. There were slight decreases in the proportions of placements in unskilled and skilled work since 1944. As measured by the national average for nonagricultural placements of all classes of referants, placements of the handicapped stood 10 percent below in unskilled occupations, but almost 7 percent above in semiskilled work, and ranked slightly above the national figure for the other four major groups of occupations.

² Veterans of World War II seeking work were not subject to the manpower rulings of priority-referral programs of the War Manpower Commission during wartime, and special efforts were made to give them adequate job-counseling service to assure effective placement in suitable and permanent jobs. Efforts were intensified in behalf of veterans under the reconversion program of the War Manpower Commission adopted August 14, 1945. (For a statement of this program, see Monthly Labor Review, October 1945, p. 672.)

³ All but some 150,000 were veterans of World War II.

⁴ Includes about 135,000 disabled veterans also analyzed under placement of the handicapped.

⁵ Included in the previous analysis of veterans.

⁶ This was done to make sure that the capacities of this group were being used to advantage. Special efforts were made during the war emergency to use the services of handicapped persons in essential jobs.

Discharged Veterans

Protection of Veterans' Unemployment Benefits During Work Stoppages in New York

UNDER New York State law, payments to veterans who are otherwise entitled to receive readjustment allowances owing to unemployment are not forfeited solely because unemployment is caused by a work stoppage resulting from a labor dispute.¹ Effective on March 4, 1946, the unemployment-insurance law was amended to provide that payment of benefits from the New York unemployment insurance fund to a veteran should be made at a uniform rate of \$20 for each accumulation of 4 effective days after the expiration of 49 consecutive days (7 weeks) from the date when he lost his employment as a result of a labor dispute. The total amount of the benefit payment may not exceed the outstanding amount of readjustment allowances for which the veteran is eligible at the time when benefits under the amendment become payable to him.

The payments are to be made to any person who is otherwise entitled to readjustment allowances because of unemployment, pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, but who is disqualified as the result of a labor dispute. Initially, the benefits are to be paid from the unemployment insurance fund. Reimbursement will be made subsequently through appropriations from the general fund of the State of New York.

¹ Information is from New York Department of Labor release RRM 1-46, February 27, 1946.

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Labor Laws and Decisions

Recent Decisions of Interest to Labor¹

Supreme Court Decisions

FLORIDA anti-closed-shop amendment.—In 1944 the State of Florida adopted an amendment to its constitution which provided as follows:

The right of persons to work shall not be denied or abridged on account of membership or nonmembership in any labor union, or labor organization; *Provided*, That this clause shall not be construed to deny or abridge the right of employees by and through a labor organization or labor union to bargain collectively with their employer.

Suit was brought by the American Federation of Labor and local labor organizations to enjoin enforcement of the amendment, on the ground that it violated the contract clause of Article I, Section 10 of the Federal Constitution, the first and fourteenth amendments to the Constitution, the National Labor Relations Act, and the Norris-LaGuardia Act.² The case came to the U. S. Supreme Court on an appeal not from a State court's ruling on the validity of the amendment, but from a Federal district court which had held valid the closed-shop ban and had dissolved a preliminary injunction preventing enforcement of the amendment.

The Supreme Court in its decision³ confined its determination to the question of the jurisdiction of the various courts and refused to rule on the merits of the amendment. The Court held that the lower Federal court should not have ruled on the constitutionality of the amendment but that it does have discretion to enjoin enforcement pending determination by the Florida court of the meaning of the amendment. The power to enjoin operation of a State law may be justified in this case because of the irreparable damage which might result from invalidating numerous closed-shop agreements, thus leading to a great loss in union membership and a general disruption of employer-employee or employer-union negotiations.

Federal "Kickback" Act not applicable to union officials.—The Federal Supreme Court,⁴ affirming the District Court of Massachusetts, has held that union officials, who required nonunion laborers on Government projects to pay union initiation fees as a prerequisite to employment or continued employment and kept part of the money

¹ Prepared in the Office of the Solicitor, Department of Labor. The cases covered in this article represent a selection of the significant decisions believed to be of special interest. No attempt has been made to reflect all recent judicial and administrative developments in the field of labor law nor to indicate the effect of particular decisions in jurisdictions in which contrary results may be reached, based upon local statutory provisions, the existence of local precedents, or a different approach by the courts to the issue presented.

² *American Federation of Labor, et al., v. Watson, et al.* 60 Fed. Supp. 1010. Discussed in *Monthly Labor Review*, August 1945 (p. 292).

³ Rendered Mar. 25, 1946.

⁴ *United States v. Carbone, et al.*, Mar. 25, 1946.

received, were not punishable under the Kickback Act. Payment of such fees by nonunion workers was required under legitimate closed-shop agreements between the union and the employers. The court, in interpreting the act, pointed out that Congress in enacting it did not intend to affect legitimate union activities or make it applicable to unlawful acts of union officials which are not in any way connected with "kickbacks." Payment of union initiation fees is a normal means to the legitimate objective of a closed shop, whereas the act was intended to prevent employers from evading wage scales imposed by the Government on its construction projects by requiring employees, in order to hold their jobs, to give back to the employers part of the wages lawfully earned.

Veterans' Reemployment Rights

What constitutes application for reemployment.—A veteran, upon being discharged from the Army, asked the company which had formerly employed him for a leave of absence because of poor physical condition. In accordance with a company regulation, he submitted to examination by the company doctor and was told that he was physically unfit to be reemployed in his old job; he then asked for a release to seek employment elsewhere. The company doctor was shown to be wrong in his diagnosis. Construing the statute literally, the Circuit Court of Appeals,⁵ reversing the District Court, held that the employee, having applied in the first place for reinstatement and a leave of absence, had complied with the requirements of the Selective Service and Retraining Act for making timely application for reinstatement and did not forfeit his reemployment rights when he later asked for release.

Right to lay-off reemployed veteran.—The Circuit Court of Appeals, in *Fishgold v. Sullivan Drydock & Repair Corp.*,⁶ held that the provision of the Selective Training and Service Act, that the veteran "shall not be discharged from such position within 1 year after restoration" means that even though the veteran be assured of his job for a year, that job is subject to the same conditions to which the old job was subject, with "only the exception that it should be better insofar as a leave of absence for the year might improve it."⁷ Thus the employer was justified in laying off the veteran employee while retaining nonveterans with greater seniority. The court in making this decision pointed out the conflict in the lower courts and said: "The fact that we are ourselves not agreed cautions us that we should not be too sure of our conclusion; and obviously the really important matter is that the question should reach the Supreme Court as soon as possible."

Fair Labor Standards Act

Employees of cold-storage warehouse covered by act.—The District Court of Florida in *Walling v. Public Quick Freezing & Cold Storage Co.*, 62 Fed. Supp. 924, held that employees of a cold-storage ware-

⁵ *Grasso v. Crouhurst, et al. d.b.a. A. J. Crouhurst & Sons*, C. C. A. 3d Cir., Feb. 26, 1946.

⁶ Circuit Court of Appeals, 2nd Cir., Mar. 4, 1946.

⁷ This holding reverses the decision of the District Court, discussed in Monthly Labor Review, November 1945 (p. 993).

house plant were covered by Section 13 (a) (5) of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Fish constituted 63 percent of the commodities handled by the defendant and a large part of the remaining business was intrastate; however, no attempt was made to keep records on intrastate and interstate business and all employees handled all classes of commodities.

The defendant claimed that since the storage plant was used exclusively by companies engaged in buying and selling merchandise which passed through the plant, the plant was a "service establishment" within the meaning of Section 13 (a) (2) and therefore exempt. The court, however, took the position that the word "service" must be narrowly construed when used in connection with the act and, citing *Guess v. Montague*, 140 Fed. (2d) 500, held the defendant not a "service establishment" within the meaning of the exemption under the act.

What constitutes executive employee.—In *Block v. Bell*, 63 Fed. Supp. 863, the District Court of Kentucky held that although the complainant was a foreman in the department in which he worked, he "was a working foreman whose manual work exceeded 20 percent of the number of hours worked in the workweek by the nonexempt employees under his direction. His title and character of the supervisory duties is therefore immaterial." He also lacked the right to hire and fire employees, but did determine when employees should be laid off. Thus, he was not an executive employee within the exemption provisions of the act. The court also held that even though the burden was upon the employee to prove his overtime, documentary proof was not necessary, nor did the employee lose his right to bring suit by his failure during his employment, to make demand for overtime pay.

In *Burke v. Lecrone-Benedict Ways*, 63 Fed. Supp. 883, the District Court of Michigan held that an administrative employee was one assisting an employee employed in an executive or administrative capacity; to enable the employee to qualify as an administrative employee for the purposes of the act, such assistance must be non-manual and require the exercise of discretion and judgment. In this case, the employee was hired in the accounting department and, although she earned over \$200 a month and assisted executive employees and used discretion and independent judgment, most of her work was manual. Thus, said the court, she did not fulfill all the requirements. Another employee, in the same suit, was found to be an executive and thus exempt under the act; he was head of the accounting department and, although his work was long and hard, none of it was manual and he made no bookkeeping entries.

Renting stores and collecting rents is not "commerce."—In *Swift v. Linden Station*, 191 S. W. (2d) 833 (Cert. denied January 11, 1946), the Court of Appeals of Tennessee held that a building owner, whose sole business was the leasing of space, maintenance of the building, and rendering of the service customary in the operation of office buildings, was not a "manufacturing establishment" engaged in the production of goods for commerce. Hence, a night watchman, hired by the owner to patrol outside the building and check in every hour, was not covered by the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The court distinguished this case

from that of *Kirschbaum v. Walling*, 316 U. S. 517, in that here the watchman had no access to the inside of the building and rendered no services to the tenants. He had no duties which involved the running of elevators, loading of trucks, or other duties such as were performed by the plaintiffs in the *Kirschbaum* case.

Injunctions

Injunction under Norris-LaGuardia Act.—In a case in which a company, asking for an injunction, failed to prove that the police were unable or unwilling to protect its property, the Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that an injunction would not be issued under the Norris-LaGuardia Act, since that act requires a finding that public officers charged with the duty of protecting a company's property either cannot or will not afford the necessary protection.⁸ The court further decided that the acts complained of when the case was first instituted in 1937 had not recurred and there was no reasonable basis for believing they would recur in the future. It concluded as follows: "In conclusion it may not be amiss to say that nothing in the Norris-LaGuardia Act denies to the Federal courts the power to issue an injunction in an action growing out of a labor dispute where the evidence clearly establishes the requisite jurisdictional findings. Fraud and violence are unlawful and as reprehensible in a labor controversy as elsewhere. But in an action for an injunction in a labor dispute the trial court is required to make certain findings as a prerequisite to the power and jurisdiction of the court to grant an injunction. The burden is upon the plaintiff to establish the findings by clear evidence." As the company had failed to satisfy this requirement, the Circuit Court affirmed the denial of the injunction.

Decisions of State Courts

Mass picketing illegal, though peaceful.—The Superior Court of California granted an employer a preliminary injunction against mass picketing of his plant⁹ on the theory that such picketing, maintained for the purpose of intimidating, coercing, or preventing persons from entering or leaving the plant during a strike, is unlawful and subject to injunctive process. The court held that mass picketing was not an exercise of constitutional guaranties of freedom of speech and assemblage but rather an abuse of the guaranties. The union took the position that the employer was precluded from any relief because he came in with unclean hands, having refused to bargain with his employees and thus making the strike a necessary consequence of his acts. The court held that the bargaining negotiations had reached an impasse and any misconduct of the employer could not therefore be related to later and independent acts of mass picketing.

Mass picketing equivalent to sit-down strike.—Pennsylvania in 1937, passed an anti-injunction law which prohibited the use of an injunction against unions except under certain circumstances involving

⁸ *Donnelly Garment Co., et al. v. Dubinsky, et al.*, C. C. A. 8th Cir. Mar. 11, 1946.

⁹ *U. S. Electrical Motors, Inc., v. United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local No. 1421, et al.*, Superior Ct. Calif., Feb. 6, 1946.

illegal acts. In 1939, the act was amended so that it did not apply in any case "Where in the course of a labor dispute * * * an employee, or employees acting in concert, or a labor organization, or the members, officers, agents, or representatives of a labor organization or anyone acting for such organization, seize, hold, damage, or destroy the plant, machinery, or other property of the employer with the intention of compelling the employer to accede to any demands, conditions, or terms of employment, or for collective bargaining." This amendment, when passed, was aimed at sit-down strikes.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recently granted an injunction, under this amendment, against mass peaceful picketing of a plant.¹⁰ In so doing it reversed the lower court, saying that the statute was aimed at preventing seizure of plants and such seizure is as effective by refusing entry through the gates of a plant as from inside the plant; a change in techniques did not change the end result, which was to deny the employer the use of his property until he acceded to the union demands.

A dissenting opinion held that such interpretation of the statute would lead to a revival of "government by injunction."

¹⁰ *Westinghouse Electric Corp. v. United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 601*, et al., Supreme Ct. Pa., Mar. 12, 1946.

Labor-Management Disputes

Work Stoppages in March 1946

ALTHOUGH work stoppages in effect during March 1946 involved 1,000,000 workers and caused approximately 14,000,000 man-days of idleness, these totals represented substantial decreases as compared with February. Idleness in March amounted to 2.4 percent of available working time, as compared with 3.9 percent in February and 3.1 percent in January. Most of this idleness was due to the continuation of three major strikes which began in previous months, i. e., automobile workers at General Motors, electrical workers, and steel workers.

The estimated number of workers involved in stoppages beginning in March was the same as in February (130,000). An increase of nearly 50 percent, however, was recorded in the number of new stoppages. The 385 stoppages beginning in March, plus an estimated 270 which carried over from February, made a total of 655 in effect during the month.

In the first quarter of 1946, idleness totaled 54,700,000 man-days, exceeding the annual total for any year since 1927—the first year for which such data are available. In 1945, there were 38,025,000 man-days idle, and in 1937 there were 28,425,000, the highest figures for any years for which information is available.

Work Stoppages in March 1946, With Comparable Data for Preceding Periods

Month	Work stoppages beginning in the period		Man-days idle during period (all stoppages)	
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Percent of available working time
March 1946 ¹	385	130,000	14,000,000	2.42
February 1946 ¹	260	130,000	21,500,000	3.94
January 1946 ¹	325	1,400,000	19,200,000	3.13
March 1945	380	197,000	775,200	.10
Quarter (total for first 3 months):				
1946 ¹	970	1,660,000	54,700,000	3.17
1945	895	354,000	1,340,000	.06
1944	1,055	394,200	1,610,000	.07
1935-39 average	642	235,700	3,242,000	-----

¹ Preliminary estimates.

Stoppages in effect in March.—Work stoppages beginning in March were not large in terms of the number of workers involved. Strikes of steel and electrical workers, which began in January, and the General Motors strike, which began in November 1945, were the largest in effect during the month.

Negotiations between the General Motors Corp. and the UAW-CIO continued, with the help of the U. S. Conciliation Service, during February. The company offered to increase wages 18½ cents per hour as against the union's demand for 19½ cents. On March 1, union representatives rejected the company's offer, declaring it failed "to meet the standards set by recommendations of the President's fact-finding board." The next day the union proposed to end the strike if the company would submit the dispute to an arbitrator named by the President. To this proposal the company countered with a demand that its offer be submitted to a secret vote of union members. On March 13 an agreement was reached on the national issues in dispute. This provided for an increase of 18½ cents per hour, equalization of wage rates, improved vacation pay, and overtime pay for work on the seventh day. On March 15 the agreement was accepted by local union delegates at a national conference which, however, authorized local unions to remain on strike at plants where local grievances remained unsettled. Within a week a few plants opened, but most plants did not resume production until late in March and a few continued idle into April.

In the strike of electrical workers (UERMWA-CIO), which began January 15, employees of the electrical division of General Motors Corp. reached an agreement with the company early in February, but the stoppage at plants of the General Electric Co. and the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. continued into March. On March 14 the union and the General Electric Co. reached an agreement providing for a basic 18½-cent wage increase for union members retroactive to January 1, subject to approval by the Wage Stabilization Board and by the union membership. The stoppage of 75,000 workers at plants of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. continued through March. The industry-wide steel strike (USA-CIO), which began January 21, was settled, insofar as agreements with the larger basic steel producers were concerned, during the last half of February, on the basis of a wage increase of 18½ cents per hour. Over a period of several weeks thereafter contracts were signed with several hundred steel-fabricating firms, which gradually returned most of the remaining idle workers to their jobs during March and April.

Activities of the United States Conciliation Service, March 1946

There were 1,765 assignments made to labor disputes, including arbitrations and technical services, during March 1946, as compared with 1,311 assignments in February and 2,351 in March 1945. This represents an increase of 25.6 percent in case assignments over February and a decrease of 24.9 percent from March 1945.

During the month of March 1946, the U. S. Conciliation Service disposed of 1,308 situations in comparison with 2,161 during the third month of 1945. Of the 1,308 situations disposed of, 21.2 percent were strikes and lock-outs; 34.2 percent were threatened strikes; 31.4 percent were controversies; 3.2 percent were arbitration cases; and 9.4 percent were investigations, elections, and special services.

According to March records, 278 strikes and lock-outs were settled by conciliation; one of these cases was a lock-out. The records show

that 448 situations were threatened strikes and 411 were controversies in which the employer, employee, and other interested parties asked for the assignment of a Commissioner of Conciliation to assist in the adjustment of disputes. The remaining 171 situations included 42 arbitrations, 5 technical services, 21 investigations, and 103 requests for information, consultations, and special services.

Cases Closed by U. S. Conciliation Service, in March 1946, by Type of Situation and Method of Handling

Method of handling	Total	Strikes and lock-outs	Threatened strikes	Controversies	Other situations
All methods.....	1,308	278	448	411	171
Settled by conciliation.....	1,137	278	448	411	
Decisions rendered in arbitration.....	42				42
Technical services.....	5				5
Investigations, special services.....	124				124

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Wage and Hour Statistics

Wage Structure of Electroplating and Polishing Industry, January 1945¹

Summary

PLANT workers employed by job electroplaters earned an average of 88 cents an hour in straight-time pay in January 1945. Men averaged 94 cents an hour, compared with 70 cents earned by women; a twelfth of the men and a third of the women received less than 65 cents an hour. Men platers and platers' helpers averaged \$1.00 and 78 cents an hour, respectively; straight-time earnings of women in these jobs were about 15 percent lower. Among men, both polishers and buffers and polishing- and buffing-machine operators earned an average of \$1.18 an hour. Workers in these four occupations constituted 60 percent of the industry's labor force.

Electroplating establishments in the Pacific region paid the highest rates in the industry; Great Lakes plants generally ranked second. Workers paid on an incentive basis received higher rates than time workers. It was also found that wage rates were commonly higher in the larger cities.

Background and Scope of Survey

The electroplating and polishing industry in peacetime serves manufacturers of motor-vehicle accessories, lighting fixtures, electrical appliances, and other consumer goods requiring a smooth surface and high polish. During the war years, plating parts for airplanes, radios, and other military equipment constituted the greater part of the industry's activity. The requirements of war production and critical shortages of materials also compelled changes in the type and amount of plating metals used. Although the scarcity of certain metals curtailed plating operations, the substitution of available, sometimes inferior, metals created a compensatory demand for plating services, particularly for corrosion proofing.

Because electroplating will play an important role in the production of consumer durable goods in the postwar period, the Bureau of Labor Statistics included this industry in its series of Industry Wage Studies. This study, covering wages and wage practices early in 1945, is the first made on a national scale by the Bureau in the electroplating industry.

¹ This report was prepared in the Wage Analysis Branch by Joseph W. Bloch. Field work for the survey was conducted under the direction of the Bureau's Regional Wage Analysts. More detailed information on wages in the industry is available in a mimeographed report (Wage Structure, Electroplating and Polishing, 1945). Wage data by locality may be obtained from the Bureau's regional offices.

The establishments studied are engaged primarily in coating metal objects with various metal finishes by means of an electrolytic bath and in polishing and buffing them to impart a smooth finish and high luster. These plants operate on a jobbing or contract basis, plating and polishing metal parts owned by other manufacturing establishments. Thus, metalworking establishments that do their own electroplating were excluded from this survey.²

Included in the survey were 252 establishments with 9,717 workers; they constituted three-fifths of all establishments with 8 or more workers and accounted for over two-thirds of the workers in the industry. The establishments scheduled were selected to be representative in terms of location, number of workers, unionization, and other significant factors. The proportion of establishments selected for study varied from region to region, hence in the computation of average hourly earnings for all workers and for selected occupations certain intraregional weighting factors were applied in order to correct for partial coverage. It should be noted, however, that the unweighted data were used in the discussion of wage determination and sources of supplementary income.

Field representatives obtained the wage data from pay rolls and other plant records and classified the workers by occupation on the basis of standard occupational descriptions.³ Most of the pay rolls used referred to a January 1945 period; in some establishments an April pay roll was used. With the exception of data relating to earnings by occupation, which apply solely to the designated jobs, the information presented covers all plant workers, excluding technicians, supervisors, and administrative personnel. Apprentices, learners, and handicapped workers were excluded from the occupational wage data but were included in the distributions of all plant workers by straight-time hourly earnings.

Characteristics of the Industry

ESTABLISHMENT SIZE AND LOCATION

Electroplating and polishing establishments are concentrated in and around the large cities; in January 1945 about 85 percent of the plants were in communities with populations exceeding 100,000.

As in metalworking generally, the greater part of the electroplating industry is in the Great Lakes and Middle Atlantic regions. The New England and Pacific regions are less important, and only a scattering of small plants was found elsewhere in the country.⁴

Job-electroplating establishments are typically small; in January 1945—a period of relatively high production—employment per plant, in plants employing 8 or more workers, averaged about 35 workers.

² For data on earnings of plating and polishing workers in machinery establishments, see Wage Structure in the Machinery Industries, January 1945, in Monthly Labor Review for February 1946.

³ These descriptions are contained in a mimeographed report (Job Descriptions for Wage Studies—Metalworking), available on request to the Bureau.

⁴ The regions used in this study are as follows: *New England*—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; *Middle Atlantic*—New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; *Border States*—Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia; *South-east*—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee; *Great Lakes*—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin; *Middle West*—Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; *Southwest*—Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; *Mountain*—Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; *Pacific*—California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. Electroplating establishments were not found in all States.

Four-fifths of the establishments surveyed employed fewer than 51 workers, and only 4 employed over 200.

Electroplating establishments exhibit other characteristics common to job or contract shops, chiefly the high ratio of labor costs to total production costs. The industry's annual wage bill ordinarily exceeds all other prime costs, including those of materials, supplies, and power.

LABOR FORCE, AND TYPES OF WORK PERFORMED

The total employment in electroplating establishments at the time of the survey was estimated at 14,000 workers, of whom women constituted about a fourth. This high incidence of women was a war-time development common to many metalworking operations traditionally considered as men's work.

Technically, electroplating is a complex process. However, the job structure is relatively simple, even though methods may vary from plant to plant or even within a single plant (depending upon the nature of the surface to be plated and the character of the finish desired). Metal objects to be plated, usually small and easily handled, are initially cleaned by buffing or by immersion in alkaline cleaner solutions, acid, water, or grease solvent, in order to produce a surface suitable for adhesion. After those parts that are not to be plated are masked or insulated, the pieces are submerged in a solution of metallic salts in a tank or barrel where an electric current accomplishes the deposit of metal to any thickness desired. Further rinses or dips follow this operation and the plated objects are then ready for the polishing and buffing wheels, there to receive the smooth surface and high luster characteristic of electroplated metal. Almost all commercial metals are used for electroplating; among these are zinc, cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, tin, and lead.

About two-thirds of the industry's labor force were engaged in direct processing jobs in January 1945. Four occupations—platers, platers' helpers, polishers and buffers, and polishing- and buffing-machine operators—accounted for almost all of the processing workers. Other significant operations were performed by rack makers, warehouse workers, craters and packers, general laborers, power-house workers, and supervisors in other than processing departments. A fifth of the processing workers, more than half of other plant workers, and nine-tenths of the office workers were women.

Except for the polishing operations, a comparison of the occupational structures of small and large establishments revealed differences caused mainly by the greater division of labor and the more diversified operations normally found in the larger plants. The smaller shops generally employed a higher proportion of polishers in relation to the number of platers employed. Since the corrosion-proof coating applied to many parts of military equipment required little or no polishing, plants that had a higher proportion of military work employed a smaller proportion of polishers.

Workers in electroplating plants come into daily contact with processes and materials which create unusual industrial hazards. Routine familiarity with harmful acids, alkalis, certain metallic salts, such as cyanides, polishing compounds, etc., is part of the job. Acid mists, vapors, and gases rising from the tanks, and dust and grit thrown

off by the polishing and buffing wheels, may cause respiratory diseases if not carefully controlled. Skin irritations, diseases, or abrasions are ever-present dangers. These hazards can, however, be effectively minimized by protective clothing, respirators, guards, proper ventilation, and care.

At the time of the survey, slightly more than a fourth of the establishments in the industry operated under the terms of trade-union agreements, with either A. F. of L. or C. I. O. unions participating. Some 30 percent of the industry's workers were employed in union establishments.

Wage Structure

Two types of basic data relating to wage rates and the level of earnings prevailing in the electroplating industry in January 1945 are summarized here: (1) straight-time average hourly earnings and a distribution of workers according to their individual hourly earnings, for all plant workers in the industry, and (2) straight-time average hourly earnings for representative occupations (accounting for about 70 percent of the workers).⁵

As the term is used here, "average straight-time" hourly wages do not include premium overtime pay, shift differentials, or any additional money income accruing to workers in the form of non-production bonuses. They do include incentive earnings and any cost-of-living bonuses.

Because the present survey was conducted on a sample basis, it was necessary to make allowance for those areas and regions in which less than 100 percent coverage was obtained. Employment and wage data in the following tables, consequently, represent industry levels rather than partial coverage, and provide a balanced picture of the industry.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS BY STRAIGHT-TIME AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

On the average, plant workers employed by job electroplaters earned 88 cents an hour in January 1945 (table 1). On a straight-time basis, 15 percent of the workers earned less than 65 cents an hour and 29 percent averaged \$1.00 or more. Separate tabulations revealed that men's earnings averaged 94 cents an hour as compared with 70 cents for women. Earnings of less than 65 cents an hour were reported for about a twelfth of the men and a third of the women.

OCCUPATIONAL RATES

Average wage rates for key occupations, representative of the range of skills and wage rates in the electroplating industry, are presented in table 2. For men, these rates varied from 65 cents an hour, paid to watchmen, to \$1.20 an hour, paid to working foremen. Both polishers and buffers and polishing- and buffing-machine operators earned an average of \$1.18 an hour. The high national level of earnings in the latter group was strongly influenced by the \$1.50 average reported for polishing- and buffing-machine operators in the

⁵ Information regarding minimum establishment entrance rates and job rates, intercity variations in wage rates, and detailed data relating to other topics treated briefly in this article are presented in the mimeographed report, *Wage Structure, Electroplating and Polishing, 1945*.

TAB
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95.0-99
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105.0-1
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115.0-1
120.0-1
125.0-1
130.0-1
135.0-1
140.0-1
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TABLE 1.—Percentage Distribution of Plant Workers in Electroplating and Polishing Establishments, by Straight-Time Average Hourly Earnings and Region, January 1945

Average hourly earnings ¹	Percent of workers in each classified earnings group						
	United States ²	New England	Middle Atlantic	Border States	Great Lakes	Middle West	Pacific
Under 45.0 cents.....	0.2	—	0.3	—	0.2	—	—
45.0-49.9 cents.....	.3	0.7	(³)	—	.1	—	—
50.0-54.9 cents.....	2.5	4.8	3.6	3.2	1.2	1.7	0.3
55.0-59.9 cents.....	3.9	5.5	6.4	1.0	2.7	2.5	—
60.0-64.9 cents.....	8.1	10.8	14.8	13.8	3.9	11.6	2.3
65.0-69.9 cents.....	7.1	9.3	8.8	4.8	5.6	6.7	6.7
70.0-74.9 cents.....	9.9	7.9	10.4	19.0	11.3	24.7	2.6
75.0-79.9 cents.....	8.6	7.1	9.6	16.4	7.9	1.7	9.2
80.0-84.9 cents.....	8.5	8.8	9.5	11.2	8.5	8.2	5.6
85.0-89.9 cents.....	8.9	8.8	7.3	5.9	10.5	9.0	8.9
90.0-94.9 cents.....	7.6	8.4	6.2	4.3	9.4	2.5	4.8
95.0-99.9 cents.....	5.5	5.1	2.8	3.2	7.7	8.2	4.4
100.0-104.9 cents.....	7.2	9.2	6.2	2.7	7.7	—	7.5
105.0-109.9 cents.....	3.8	2.3	2.4	3.2	5.2	1.7	4.2
110.0-114.9 cents.....	4.6	4.1	4.1	2.7	4.2	21.5	7.5
115.0-119.9 cents.....	3.6	1.2	3.1	2.7	3.2	—	10.5
120.0-124.9 cents.....	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.5	—	5.4
125.0-129.9 cents.....	3.2	1.6	1.1	1.6	3.4	—	11.8
130.0-134.9 cents.....	1.0	.6	.1	—	1.7	—	1.5
135.0-139.9 cents.....	.8	.7	.5	2.7	.5	—	2.8
140.0-144.9 cents.....	.5	—	.2	—	.7	—	1.4
145.0-149.9 cents.....	.1	.1	.1	—	.1	—	.6
150.0-159.9 cents.....	.6	.4	.6	—	.7	—	.8
160.0-169.9 cents.....	.3	.2	.1	—	.5	—	.2
170.0-179.9 cents.....	.3	.1	.6	—	.1	—	.6
180.0-189.9 cents.....	.2	.4	.1	—	.2	—	.2
190.0-199.9 cents.....	.2	.1	—	—	.3	—	—
200.0-209.9 cents.....	.2	.3	(³)	—	.2	—	—
210.0-219.9 cents.....	.1	—	(³)	—	.1	—	.2
220.0-229.9 cents.....	.1	—	—	—	.1	—	—
230.0-239.9 cents.....	.1	—	—	—	.1	—	—
240.0-249.9 cents.....	.1	—	(³)	—	.1	—	—
250.0 cents and over.....	.2	—	(³)	—	.4	—	—
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total number of workers.....	13,562	1,347	4,224	188	6,205	121	1,310
Average hourly earnings ¹	\$0.88	\$0.83	\$0.81	\$0.81	\$0.92	\$0.83	\$1.02

¹ Excluding premium pay for overtime and night work.² Includes data for regions not shown separately. ³ Less than a tenth of 1 percent.TABLE 2.—Average Straight-Time Hourly Earnings ¹ for Selected Occupations in Electroplating and Polishing Establishments, by Region, January 1945

Occupation and sex	United States ²		New England		Middle Atlantic		Border States	
	Number of workers	Average hourly rates	Number of workers	Average hourly rates	Number of workers	Average hourly rates	Number of workers	Average hourly rates
Men								
Janitors.....	111	\$0.73	6	(³)	32	\$0.70	3	(³)
Loaders and unloaders.....	206	.79	19	\$0.80	85	.73	9	(³)
Maintenance men, general utility.....	276	1.02	33	.94	83	1.02	5	\$1.04
Platers.....	2,277	1.00	249	.97	479	.93	31	.91
Platers' helpers.....	2,889	.78	224	.78	1,015	.72	41	.74
Polishers and buffers, metal.....	894	1.18	120	.98	245	1.16	10	1.04
Polishing- and buffing-machine operators.....	527	1.18	25	.79	261	.95	5	(³)
Truck drivers.....	182	.92	24	.83	58	.87	3	(³)
Watchmen.....	132	.65	8	(³)	31	.64	5	(³)
Working foremen, processing departments.....	586	1.20	80	1.16	112	1.21	4	(³)
Women								
Platers.....	97	.85	—	—	14	.69	—	—
Platers' helpers.....	1,437	.68	91	.68	416	.63	23	.72

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2.—Average Straight-Time Hourly Earnings¹ for Selected Occupations in Electroplating and Polishing Establishments, by Region, January 1945—Continued

Occupation and sex	Great Lakes		Middle West		Pacific	
	Number of workers	Average hourly rates	Number of workers	Average hourly rates	Number of workers	Average hourly rates
<i>Men</i>						
Janitors.....	59	\$0.73	1	(³)	16	\$0.81
Loaders and unloaders.....	93	.85				
Maintenance men, general utility.....	136	1.02	2	(³)	16	1.20
Platers.....	1,231	1.01	12	\$0.99	258	1.15
Platers' helpers.....	1,323	.82	51	.72	195	.89
Polishers and buffers, metal.....	379	1.24	19	1.10	112	1.27
Polishing- and buffing-machine operators.....	231	1.50			4	(³)
Truck drivers.....	58	.97	4	(³)	33	1.02
Watchmen.....	84	.64	2	(³)	2	(³)
Working foremen, processing departments.....	242	1.15	3	(³)	137	1.30
<i>Women</i>						
Platers.....	82	.87			1	(³)
Platers' helpers.....	858	.70	12	.68	37	.84

¹ Excluding premium pay for overtime and night work.² Includes data for other regions not shown separately.³ Insufficient number of workers to justify presentation of an average.

Great Lakes area, which had the greatest concentration of incentive workers. In other regions the more highly skilled polishers and buffers held a wage advantage. Platers averaged \$1.00 and platers' helpers 78 cents an hour.

In the two occupations in which women were employed in significant numbers—platers and platers' helpers—rates averaged 85 cents and 68 cents an hour, respectively, or 15 and 13 percent below the earnings of men in similar jobs.

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

The highest general level of earnings was found in the Pacific region where Los Angeles and San Francisco plants, representing the industry in that region, paid an average of \$1.02 an hour. Establishments in the Great Lakes area, employing approximately 47 percent of the industry's workers, reported an average wage of 92 cents an hour, second to the Pacific region. Earnings of men workers ranged from \$1.11 an hour on the Pacific Coast to 82 cents in the few plants in the Border States. Women plant workers also fared best on the West Coast but poorest in New England establishments (77 and 62 cents an hour, respectively).

The occupational wage data in table 2 also show the top ranking of Pacific establishments, with Great Lakes plants generally second. Among the other regions, however, no predominant pattern is indicated by the data.

VARIATION IN PAY LEVELS WITH SIZE OF ESTABLISHMENT AND COMMUNITY, UNIONIZATION, AND METHOD OF WAGE PAYMENT

In order to picture the variation of wage rates with factors that frequently play a role in wage determination, electroplating establishments were classified according to employment, size of community, size of establishment, union status, and method of wage payment. A

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of a union a

distinct tendency was indicated for rates in the electroplating industry to be higher for incentive than for time workers. There was also some tendency toward higher rates in the larger cities. For most of the occupations covered, a slight advantage was observed in favor of workers in small establishments as compared with those in the larger plants in the United States as a whole, but this advantage was not consistent on a regional basis.

In a comparison between union and nonunion establishments the data revealed no decisive wage advantage one way or the other. Union plant workers⁶ in the Pacific and Great Lakes areas had slightly higher earnings in most of the occupations listed, and in the Middle Atlantic region, where union representation was significant, no clear-cut difference was evident. In the industry as a whole, however, janitors, maintenance men, watchmen, and working foremen fared better in the union plants, while nonunion plant workers in the other occupations, except platers, had higher average straight-time hourly earnings. Men platers' earnings were identical in both types of establishments.

In general, earnings of incentive workers exceeded those of time workers, in some instances by a wide margin. In the 4 occupations and 3 regions in which incentive work was of some significance, time workers earned more than incentive workers in only one instance, that of platers in Middle Atlantic establishments. In the other 3 occupations incentive workers throughout the industry held a decided advantage.

Wage Practices and Sources of Supplementary Income

Straight-time rates have been of major interest in wage negotiations and Government labor policy. In addition, management and labor have long been interested in methods of wage determination and the various ways in which workers' income may be enhanced without altering the basic rate structure. Ordinarily, these "fringe" issues have been subordinated to the setting of wage rates, but the wartime wage-stabilization program gave these issues added importance. During the war it was not uncommon for union-employer negotiations to deal exclusively with wage factors other than job rates.

Methods of wage determination.—Less than 10 percent of the establishments studied operated under incentive-wage plans (piece rate or production bonus) covering at least a fourth of their plant workers; in most instances these plans were based on individual rather than group production. The ratio of union to nonunion establishments and of small to large establishments among the 23 plants in which incentive wages were of importance did not differ markedly (considering the small size of this group) from the ratios existing in the entire group of establishments surveyed.

Incentive-wage payments were more prevalent than the percentage of establishments predominantly on an incentive basis would indicate, since an additional 10 percent of the job-electroplaters had some workers—perhaps 3 or 4—on an incentive basis. However, only 1 of every 14 workers in the industry earned wages on a piece-rate or

⁶ Establishments were classified as unionized if more than half of the workers were employed under terms of a union agreement.

production-bonus basis. Incentive workers were found in significant numbers in certain occupations, particularly among polishers and buffers and polishing- and buffing-machine operators, and their earnings influenced considerably the regional and national averages for these jobs.

Work schedules and premium pay.—In this survey no attempt was made to obtain weekly earnings of workers; however, data regarding scheduled weekly hours of work, one of the chief determinants of weekly pay, and the payment of shift differentials, a source of premium pay, are presented here.

A study of scheduled weekly hours or the established plant workweek for first-shift workers in force at the time of the survey revealed that men in all but 7 plants worked in excess of 40 hours a week, in the majority of instances more than 48 hours. The industry's women workers also remained on the job for a considerable number of overtime hours during the war period. In 80 percent of the plants in which women were employed their scheduled workweek was 48 hours or more.

The study revealed that 10 establishments had adopted the practice of paying first-shift employees for 30-minute lunch periods.⁸

At the time of the survey 2 of every 5 electroplating plants operated extra shifts, and about a fifth of the industry's workers were employed on night shifts, with the third shift accounting for a fifth of this number. Slightly more than three-fifths of the multiple-shift plants paid a premium to workers on night shifts, the most frequent form of differential reported being an addition of 5 cents to the regular hourly rate.

Bonuses not directly related to production.—More than half the establishments surveyed reported the payment of a nonproduction bonus to plant workers. In most cases the bonus was paid at Christmas time. Information was obtained regarding the amount of money paid out in such bonuses, and a rough apportionment was made to show the net effect over the year upon the average worker's hourly earnings. When averaged over the entire industry the addition to plant workers' hourly earnings represented by such bonuses amounted to less than 1 cent per hour.⁹

Vacations, Sick Leave, and Insurance Provisions

Paid vacations were given to plant workers with a year or more of service by more than half of the establishments in the electroplating industry. In 9 out of 10 cases the vacation period was for 1 week. More liberal vacation policies were in effect for the industry's office workers.

Formal provisions for paid sick leave were not frequently encouraged; only 3 establishments paid plant workers for a limited number of days of illness, while office workers in 10 establishments were covered by a formal sick-leave policy.

Slightly more than a fourth of the 252 establishments surveyed maintained one or more forms of insurance or pension plan for plant

⁸ Lunch periods of 20 minutes or less were not considered.

⁹ Nonproduction bonuses were not included in the data on straight-time hourly earnings presented earlier in this report.

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workers. In most of these establishments workers had life-insurance policies paid for in whole or in part by the employer, while health (or accident) insurance policies were in effect in 32 plants. Retirement pensions were rare. Office personnel received the benefits of insurance in approximately the same measure as plant workers.



Trend of Factory Earnings, 1939 to February 1946

THE published average earnings of factory workers are summarized in the accompanying table for selected months from January 1939 to February 1946.¹ The earnings shown in this table are on a gross basis (i. e., before deductions for social security, income and victory taxes, bond purchases, etc.).

Earnings of Factory Workers in Selected Months, 1939 to February 1946

Month and year	Average weekly earnings			Average hourly earnings			Estimated straight-time average hourly earnings ¹ weighted by January 1941 employment		
	All manu- factur- ing	Dura- ble goods	Non- dura- ble goods	All manu- factur- ing	Dura- ble goods	Non- dura- ble goods	All manu- factur- ing	Dura- ble goods	Non- dura- ble goods
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1939: January.....	\$23.19	\$25.33	\$21.57	\$0.632	\$0.696	\$0.583	\$0.641	\$0.702	\$0.575
1940: January.....	24.56	27.39	22.01	.655	.717	.598	.652	.708	.589
1941: January.....	26.64	30.48	22.75	.683	.749	.610	.664	.722	.601
1942: January.....	33.40	38.98	26.97	.801	.890	.688	.751	.826	.668
July.....	36.43	42.51	28.94	.856	.949	.725	.783	.863	.696
October.....	38.89	45.31	30.66	.893	.990	.751	.807	.888	.718
1943: January.....	40.62	46.68	32.10	.919	1.017	.768	.819	.905	.726
April.....	42.48	48.67	33.58	.944	1.040	.790	.833	.916	.742
July.....	42.76	48.76	34.01	.963	1.060	.806	.850	.939	.753
October.....	44.86	51.26	35.18	.988	1.086	.824	.863	.950	.768
December.....	44.58	50.50	35.61	.995	1.093	.832	.873	.962	.775
1944: January.....	45.29	51.21	36.03	1.002	1.099	.838	.877	.965	.780
April.....	45.55	51.67	36.16	1.013	1.110	.850	.889	.976	.794
July.....	45.43	51.07	37.05	1.018	1.116	.862	.901	.993	.802
October.....	46.94	53.18	37.97	1.031	1.129	.878	.908	.991	.817
December.....	47.44	53.68	38.39	1.040	1.140	.883	.912	.997	.820
1945: January.....	47.50	53.54	38.66	1.046	1.144	.891	.920	1.005	.827
April.....	47.12	52.90	38.80	1.044	1.138	.899	.925	1.007	.836
July.....	45.12	50.60	38.59	1.032	1.126	.902	.933	1.017	.842
October.....	40.97	44.23	37.76	.985	1.063	.909	.942	1.014	.863
December.....	41.21	44.08	38.52	.994	1.066	.927	.957	1.028	.880
1946: January ²	41.14	43.67	38.75	1.003	1.069	.941	.968	1.034	.896
February ²	40.60	42.60	39.02	1.002	1.064	.953	.982	1.047	.911

¹ The method of estimating straight-time average hourly earnings makes no allowance for special rates of pay for work done on major holidays. Estimates for the months of January, July, September, and November, therefore, may not be precisely comparable with those for the other months in which important holidays are seldom included in the pay periods for which manufacturing establishments report to the Bureau. This characteristic of the data does not appear to invalidate the comparability of the figures for January 1941 with those for the preceding and following months.

² Preliminary.

³ Compare Trends in Factory Wages, 1939-43, in Monthly Labor Review, November 1943 (p. 869), especially table 4 (p. 879). For detailed data regarding weekly earnings, see Detailed Reports for Industrial and Business Employment, February 1946, table 6 (p. 827), in this issue.

Weekly earnings in all manufacturing averaged \$40.60 in February 1946—75.1 percent above the average in January 1939, 52.4 percent above January 1941, and 4.4 percent above October 1942. Weekly pay for February 1946 dropped 14.3 percent below that of February 1945, as the result of reductions in both hourly pay and working hours. However, the average earnings of factory workers were still higher than before the war, as a result of such wartime factors as changing composition of the labor force within plants and shifts in the distribution of workers among plants and among industries, as well as wage-rate increases.

Gross hourly earnings in all manufacturing averaged 100.2 cents in February 1946—58.5 percent above the average in January 1939, 46.7 percent above January 1941, and 12.2 percent above October 1942.

Straight-time average hourly earnings, as shown in columns 7 to 9, are weighted by man-hours of employment in the major divisions of manufacturing for January 1941. These earnings are estimated to exclude premium pay at time and a half for work in excess of 40 hours. However, the effect of extra pay on supplementary shifts and on holidays is included. For all manufacturing, the straight-time average in February 1946 was 98.2 cents per hour; this was 53.2 percent higher than in January 1939, 47.9 percent above January 1941, and 21.7 percent above October 1942.

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Prices and Cost of Living

Price Trends and Price Control in Foreign Countries Since VE-Day¹

Summary

CONTINUED shortages of food, clothing, housing, fuel, and other essentials have made it necessary to continue price controls since the end of the war in Europe in all 26 foreign countries for which reports are available. Furthermore, the removal of price controls in the next 6 to 8 months is not being generally considered. However, in Colombia, price ceilings were removed in August 1945 and then reestablished in March 1946. In most of the European countries which have price indexes, very little change in the price level had occurred since VE-day. The cost of living in France showed a marked rise, however, and scattered reports from southern and eastern Europe show that, except in the Soviet Union, price increases have continued. In Latin America, changes in cost-of-living indexes since May 1945 have varied from a decrease of 1 percent in Colombia to an increase of 16.9 percent in Mexico. In Chungking, China, retail prices rose 11.1 percent in the last 6 months of 1945, compared with an increase of 157.3 percent in the first 6 months of the year. In Japan a number of price-control measures were taken for the purpose of preventing price increases and black-market operations, but notes in circulation increased 115.8 percent from July 1945 through February 1946.

In general food and clothing costs have increased more than the general cost of living, primarily because rents have not risen as much as commodity prices. With the exception of Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Iran, the indexes of wholesale prices show greater increases since 1939 than do the cost-of-living indexes, in part because food prices, which have been subsidized to a greater or less degree in most countries, are more heavily weighted in cost-of-living indexes than in wholesale-price indexes. Food subsidies in Norway and Denmark were increased in the fall of 1945.

Latin America

The general trend of prices in Latin America since the end of the war in Europe has been upward. Most countries have maintained price-control measures, but increases in the supply of goods have

¹ Prepared by the Bureau's Foreign Labor Conditions Staff under the direction of Faith M. Williams, on the basis of Government and other publications of the countries covered and reports from Foreign Service Officers of the United States.

not been large enough to meet current demands. In some countries, price ceilings have been revised upward.

The greatest price increases reported since VE-day in the Latin American countries for which figures are available occurred in Mexico, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay. In Costa Rica there was a slight decline in the cost-of-living index after VJ-day, which was reported as resulting from the increase in the number of price-enforcement officers and public pressure for enforcement of price-control regulations. In Colombia both the retail- and wholesale-price indexes declined from June through November, although rents rose immediately on the abandonment of price control in August 1945. In Bolivia prices began to rise sharply in December 1944 and, by February 1945, the cost-of-living index for La Paz stood at the level of May 1945—the highest point ever reached by that index. Further details appear in tables 1-3.

TABLE 1.—*Indexes of Cost of Living in 10 Latin American Countries, August 1939-February 1946*¹

[August 1939=100]

Month	Argentina (Buenos Aires)	Bolivia (La Paz)	Brazil (Rio de Janeiro)	Chile (San- tiago)	Colombia (Bo- gotá)	Costa Rica (San José)	Mex- ico (Mex- ico City)	Para- guay	Peru (Lima)	Urugu- ay
Number of items in- cluded ²	110	56	144	56	36	(³)	32	44	(³)	65
1939: August.....	⁴ 100.0	⁴ 100.0	⁴ 100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(³)	100.0	100.0
December.....	105.8	115.5	101.5	105.6	98.9	98.3	99.6	109.0	102.5	104.1
1940: August.....	102.7	124.9	105.2	115.6	96.7	97.2	99.1	(³)	108.9	105.7
December.....	101.3	135.0	107.7	116.0	93.6	96.5	101.0	114.0	111.6	106.5
1941: June.....	104.7	(³)	115.6	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	106.3
December.....	111.7	182.5	120.5	142.5	97.7	105.4	115.1	128.0	123.6	104.4
1942: June.....	112.7	202.7	127.2	162.2	105.8	114.7	120.9	146.0	129.4	108.6
December.....	112.4	236.0	141.1	179.1	111.2	138.3	127.7	152.0	134.0	108.6
1943: June.....	115.9	256.2	141.0	196.5	122.0	165.2	160.1	180.0	140.9	111.6
December.....	109.6	255.9	147.5	193.4	132.8	155.1	174.7	185.0	148.4	111.2
1944: June.....	109.5	266.7	156.4	209.2	151.4	163.1	202.5	199.0	162.4	116.7
December.....	115.3	275.4	168.9	222.4	157.4	174.5	200.5	198.0	168.7	121.4
1945: January.....	121.2	276.4	183.0	221.4	160.6	175.2	201.3	199.0	172.1	123.6
February.....	123.3	276.4	183.2	222.8	165.8	173.6	201.6	203.0	174.1	127.1
March.....	132.5	277.4	182.8	224.0	172.5	174.5	202.3	206.0	175.1	129.2
April.....	132.6	274.1	185.3	226.8	171.3	177.5	205.0	204.0	176.2	129.0
May.....	133.0	274.1	182.5	227.6	175.0	172.4	206.9	207.0	179.3	129.1
June.....	133.1	274.7	184.5	229.8	166.4	173.4	209.1	213.0	179.9	131.9
July.....	134.6	290.0	187.0	229.9	162.5	174.5	213.8	220.0	180.9	135.5
August.....	133.4	291.0	185.9	231.9	161.5	173.8	218.0	222.0	181.4	143.1
September.....	134.2	287.0	184.3	242.0	161.2	173.9	220.8	223.0	182.6	137.5
October.....	134.3	294.0	(³)	248.7	158.3	173.2	222.9	219.0	185.0	137.9
November.....	134.5	296.0	(³)	236.8	158.5	171.6	224.9	227.0	185.5	139.1
December.....	137.6	(³)	(³)	239.8	161.6	170.8	231.5	223.0	(³)	137.6
1946: January.....	(³)	(³)	(³)	241.8	169.0	170.8	241.9	221.0	188.0	(³)
February.....	(³)	(³)	(³)	240.2	173.2	170.6	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)

¹ These indexes show changes in retail prices and rents in cities. In general they are similar in construction and design to the index of consumer prices of moderate-income families in large cities prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, although different methods are used to collect the prices in different countries, and most indexes do not cover as many items as the United States index. The indexes given for Rio de Janeiro represent changes in prices to "middle income" families except that there is included in the index of food prices a second Brazilian food index, which presents changes in food prices paid by families of wage earners in that city. The food-cost index for middle-income families in Rio de Janeiro has risen less than that for wage earners' families. None of these indexes fully reflects increases in cost caused by quality deterioration of consumers' goods in the war period, because of the fact that in no country are statistical measurements of the quality of such goods available.

² The number of items given represents the types of goods and services priced, and not the number of grades or qualities priced for a given item. The entry applies to the most recent date for which information is available.

³ Not available.

⁴ The series given represents a combination of indexes with different weighting, prepared in different periods of time for overlapping dates.

⁵ 1938 prices = 100.

TABLE 2.—*Indexes of Wholesale Prices in 7 Latin American Countries, August 1939–February 1946*¹

[August 1939=100]

Month	Argentina (Buenos Aires)	Chile (Santiago)	Colombia (Bogotá)	Costa Rica (San José)	Mexico (Mexico City)	Peru (Lima)	Venezuela (Caracas)
1939: August.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
December.....	118.3	108.0	94.6	101.8	97.4	110.0	95.2
1940: August.....	119.3	112.9	87.0	95.4	98.7	116.9	96.7
December.....	120.4	113.1	85.1	95.4	96.7	120.1	95.4
1941: June.....	134.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	100.5
December.....	164.9	155.3	85.8	113.4	109.0	152.5	101.1
1942: June.....	183.2	176.7	96.6	130.1	114.9	170.8	112.8
December.....	187.1	191.4	104.3	158.9	120.3	180.6	122.4
1943: June.....	198.6	198.6	113.7	177.6	143.7	196.9	125.7
December.....	198.1	194.6	123.6	167.5	155.5	201.5	124.5
1944: June.....	206.7	199.0	148.1	176.6	181.6	199.9	134.2
December.....	209.8	212.5	148.9	186.7	184.3	204.1	126.5
1945: January.....	210.5	209.1	157.5	192.5	180.6	207.6	127.5
February.....	211.1	209.3	159.1	195.4	178.6	208.3	127.9
March.....	211.7	210.8	166.5	197.9	183.0	208.8	128.2
April.....	212.3	211.8	174.9	209.7	186.5	211.3	132.8
May.....	211.9	212.7	174.8	190.1	187.9	210.3	132.8
June.....	211.7	215.0	171.1	191.5	187.6	211.1	134.4
July.....	212.0	215.6	164.8	197.3	193.3	211.7	132.9
August.....	210.5	217.9	161.9	194.5	192.8	213.2	132.5
September.....	210.9	218.8	162.0	188.4	196.5	210.1	132.8
October.....	208.8	221.0	156.5	185.5	198.8	209.1	(2)
November.....	209.5	222.5	161.3	181.3	203.7	236.0	(2)
December.....	212.2	221.1	157.9	183.1	205.4	(2)	(2)
1946: January.....	214.5	223.5	161.9	184.6	207.0	210.9	(2)
February.....	(2)	(2)	164.9	183.2	206.6	(2)	(2)

¹ These indexes are based on prices paid for goods sold in primary markets, weighted in accordance with their relative importance in the countries concerned. The number and kind of items covered, the method of collecting prices, and the method of computing the indexes differ from country to country.

² Not available.

TABLE 3.—*Indexes of Retail Prices of Food and Clothing Since August 1939, Compared with Cost-of-Living Indexes in 10 Latin American Countries*

[August 1939=100]

Country and city	Month and year	Indexes, in months specified, of—		
		Food	Clothing	Cost of living
Argentina (Buenos Aires) ¹	December 1945.....	149.6	136.4	137.6
Bolivia (La Paz) ¹	November 1945.....	319.0	346.0	296.0
Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) ¹	September 1945.....	201.6	300.0	184.3
Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) ²	August 1945.....	253.1		
Chile (Santiago).....	December 1945.....	251.2	315.8	239.8
Colombia (Bogotá).....	February 1946.....	183.1	185.9	173.2
Costa Rica (San José).....	February 1946.....	178.4	209.9	170.6
Mexico (Mexico City).....	January 1946.....	238.0	265.9	241.9
Paraguay (Asunción) ³	October 1945.....	185.0	(4)	219.0
Peru (Lima).....	October 1945.....	198.7	214.1	185.0
Uruguay (Montevideo).....	December 1945.....	146.4	213.5	137.6

¹ The series given represents a combination of indexes with different weighting, prepared in different periods of time for overlapping dates. The first Brazilian index shows prices paid by middle-class families.

² Wage earner series.

³ 1938 prices=100.

⁴ Not available.

Argentina.—On September 14, 1945, decree No. 21,748 was issued revising the ceiling prices established by decree No. 29,709 of November 9, 1944, or by any other decrees on the products covered in the September decree. It provided that all actions pending which were based on the superseded legislation should be turned over to the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce for settlement, and the enforcement of the price-control law of 1939 was assigned to the same

agency by a decree of October 31, 1945. Ceiling prices for articles of food and clothing fixed by the decree of September 14, 1945 were to be effective until November 30 in the Federal District and adjacent parts of the Province of Buenos Aires; the conditions of sale of clothing and textiles for use in the home were fixed, up to December 31, 1945, throughout the Republic. However, the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce might adjust these ceiling prices in case of variations in the price of raw materials, cereals, and other products of national origin. Ceiling prices to be charged to wholesalers, retailers, and consumers became effective November 1 for various grades of 31 foods and 12 household articles. Specific regulations were provided for textile prices, which in some cases, lowered the prices in effect on the date of the decree and fixed the maximum profit under certain circumstances, taking into consideration cost of raw materials, wages and other costs entering into manufacture and handling of goods. Retail dealers were not allowed to sell to the public any articles, on which ceiling prices had been fixed, in quantities greater than normal consumption would demand, and resale of textiles purchased for home use was expressly prohibited. Within 15 days from date of its publication, Provincial and territorial governments were to adjust their local prices of articles listed in the decree, taking into consideration transportation and other costs.

A short enforcement period was fixed, during which new measures could be prepared for the gradual return to normalcy, with prices determined by the law of supply and demand, as economic conditions of the postwar permit.

Bolivia.—The available information indicates that there have been no changes in price control in Bolivia in the past year. The cost-of-living index for La Paz rose substantially after June 1945.

Brazil.—In September 1945, two new price-control agencies were created. The first of these was a National Price Commission established by the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization on September 6, 1945, to study and make recommendations to the Coordinator concerning ceiling prices, cost of production, supply and other related problems; State and municipal branches were to be established. The second agency established during September was a special price-enforcement agency in the Federal District, which was installed on September 20. Late in 1945, the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization issued an order that, effective January 1, 1946, the manufacturer's price of cotton textiles in Brazil should be reduced 10 percent below prices prevailing on September 1, 1945. Gasoline rationing was scheduled to end for the Federal District on November 1, 1945, and later in the State of São Paulo, in the south of Minas Gerais, the north of Paraná, and in the States of Mato Grosso and Goiás.

By decree law No. 8,500 of December 19, 1945, the office of Coordinator of Economic Mobilization was abolished, effective at the close of 1945, the National Price Commission being transferred to the Ministry of Labor. Shortages of wheat and meat complicated price-control problems late in 1945 and early in 1946. Refusal by the Rio de Janeiro baking industry to make home deliveries of bread compelled the Commission to issue a new price ceiling for bread, effective

March 1, 1946, of 3.10 cruzeiros for a loaf weighing a kilogram (2.2 pounds).

Chile.—Price-control regulations have been continued in Chile since the relatively slow improvement in the shipping situation, and general world shortages have combined to keep supplies of capital equipment and consumer goods far below the demand. In addition, bad weather conditions in most sections of the country had an adverse effect on crops and the livestock industry in 1945.

Colombia.—As noted above, price control in Colombia was abandoned in August 1945 and reestablished in March 1946. Details as to the new system of control are not yet available.

Costa Rica.—In September 1945 the price-control administration in Costa Rica (Office of Economic Defense and General Price Inspection) was organized and the number of price inspectors was increased from 16 to 32, in response to protests from civic, social, and labor organizations that price ceilings were not being adequately enforced. In February 1946, there was considerable public discussion of the possibility of reducing price ceilings, on the ground that imports were increasing and that wartime price levels were no longer justified.

Mexico.—The Mexican Government continued its efforts to hold ceiling prices on various staple commodities, but after VJ-day both the wholesale and retail price indexes continued the rise which began late in 1940 at the retail level and early in 1941 at the wholesale level.

Peru.—The general food situation in Peru in March 1946 was characterized by shortages of wheat, potatoes, meat, fish, edible oil, and fruits. In order to stabilize retail bean prices and make larger quantities available to the public, large purchases were made by the Department of Agriculture for sale at a moderate price. The purchase of Chilean potatoes was under consideration, while the importation of meat and fruits, and reduction in tariffs for these two products was contemplated, as measures to combat in part rising living costs in basic foods.

Uruguay.—General shortages, and particularly a shortage of wheat, resulted in the continuance of price control. A law providing for rent stabilization or reduction, passed on December 16, 1943, was extended to December 31, 1945, and a recent decree raised the price of bread.

Venezuela.—Under authority of decree No. 176 of August 15, 1944, the Venezuelan National Supply Commission recently fixed certain ceiling prices, as follows: Maize in the Federal District and Sucre District of the State of Miranda, by resolutions of January 4 and 12, 1946; retail price of chopped meat (*carne picada*) in the Federal District and Sucre District of the State of Miranda, by resolution of January 10, 1946; prices of Dodge automobiles, by resolution of January 10, 1946; exact wholesale and retail prices for beef on the hoof, by resolution of March 19, 1946; and imported meat, by resolution of March 21, 1946. The National Supply Commission also has authority to repeal ceiling prices fixed earlier by the former National Price Regulation Board, as was done for mechanical refrigerators by resolution of January 4, 1946.

Other Countries

Statistics on price changes during the year 1945 are available for 12 other countries. In general they show relative stability of the wholesale price level. Very little change occurred in the indexes for Australia, Canada, and New Zealand; slight declines occurred in Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, and in Norway at the end of the year. A slight rise took place in the United Kingdom, and a very marked rise in China. In Egypt, Iran, and Palestine, declines earlier in the year were followed by increases.

In none of these countries was there a marked decline in living costs as measured by retail price indexes during 1945. Stability characterized the indexes for the British countries, Switzerland, and the Scandinavian countries, except for Norway where the index rose 4 points. Only China showed a drastic rise in the index of living costs.

STATISTICS ON PRICE CHANGES

Tables 4 to 6 give index numbers of retail and wholesale prices for foreign countries outside Latin America. As noted in the previous article on this subject² the kinds of goods and services included in these indexes, methods of weighting and computing them, and methods of collecting the prices on which they are based differ considerably from country to country. It would be expected that countries where

TABLE 4.—*Indexes of Retail Prices (Living Costs) in Various Countries, August 1939–February 1946*¹

[August 1939=100]

Month	Australia	Canada	China (Chung- king)	Denmark	Egypt	Iran
Original base.....	July 1936– June 1939 ²	1935–39	July 1936– June 1937	1935	June– August 1939 ³	Mar. 21, 1936–Mar. 20, 1937
Number of items included ⁴	(⁵)	147	48	78	60	(⁶)
1939: August.....	100.0	100.0	⁷ 204.0	⁷ 100.0	100.0	100.0
December.....	101.1	103.0	282.0	⁸ 110.2	108.0	102.6
1940: August.....	104.7	105.1	652.0	⁹ 127.1	(⁹)	111.8
December.....	107.7	107.1	(⁹)	⁸ 141.1	122.0	115.8
1941: June.....	109.3	109.6	(⁹)	⁹ 150.5	134.0	142.4
December.....	112.4	114.9	2,930.0	⁹ 151.4	156.0	189.1
1942: June.....	118.1	115.8	4,310.0	⁹ 154.2	178.0	251.5
December.....	122.5	117.9	6,290.0	⁸ 156.1	215.0	385.0
1943: June.....	124.9	117.6	10,900.0	⁹ 154.2	241.2	620.3
December.....	122.6	118.4	18,300.0	⁸ 156.1	257.2	763.7
1944: June.....	122.9	118.1	44,500.0	⁹ 157.0	276.9	796.3
December.....	123.0	117.6	52,800.0	⁸ 157.9	292.0	690.8
1945: January.....	(⁹)	117.7	63,300.0	157.9	293.1	689.9
February.....	(⁹)	117.7	86,200.0	(⁹)	294.1	693.4
March.....	122.6	117.8	110,500.0	(⁹)	295.6	683.5
April.....	(⁹)	117.8	127,500.0	158.9	292.8	677.1
May.....	(⁹)	118.1	141,600.0	(⁹)	290.3	657.9
June.....	122.9	118.7	147,600.0	(⁹)	290.0	637.3
July.....	(⁹)	119.3	162,900.0	158.9	293.0	612.5
August.....	(⁹)	119.5	182,200.0	(⁹)	295.4	601.1
September.....	123.0	118.9	169,500.0	(⁹)	297.7	587.7
October.....	(⁹)	118.7	164,900.0	158.9	(⁹)	586.2
November.....	(⁹)	118.9	173,800.0	(⁹)	(⁹)	602.6
December.....	(⁹)	119.1	178,800.0	(⁹)	(⁹)	626.7
1946: January.....	(⁹)	118.9	181,000.0	157.9	(⁹)	697.4
February.....		118.9				646.7

See footnotes at end of table.

¹ See Monthly Labor Review, October 1945 (p. 624).

TABLE

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TABLE 4.—*Indexes of Retail Prices (Living Costs) in Various Countries August, 1939–February 1946—Continued*
[August 1939=100]

Month	New Zealand	Norway	Palestine	Sweden	Switzerland	United Kingdom
Original base.....	December 1942 ¹	1938	"Prewar"	1935	June 1914	July 1914
Number of items included ²	221	170	140	170	(³)	70
1939: August.....	100.0	100.0	(⁴)	⁵ 100.0	100.0	100.0
December.....	102.2	106.0	(⁴)	⁵ 105.6	103.6	111.6
1940: August.....	104.7	115.9	(⁴)	⁵ 114.8	110.2	119.4
December.....	105.8	129.5	(⁴)	⁵ 121.3	116.8	125.8
1941: June.....	107.4	137.8	(⁴)	⁵ 129.6	127.7	129.0
December.....	110.6	142.6	(⁴)	⁵ 134.3	134.3	129.7
1942: June.....	110.4	146.1	185.0	⁵ 139.8	140.9	128.4
December.....	113.4	147.6	211.0	⁵ 140.7	146.0	129.0
1943: June.....	113.4	149.4	248.0	140.7	148.2	127.7
December.....	113.5	150.2	230.0	140.7	149.6	128.4
1944: June.....	113.5	151.3	238.0	139.8	151.8	129.0
December.....	113.8	151.5	252.0	139.8	151.8	129.7
1945: January.....	(⁶)	151.6	254.0	(⁶)	152.6	130.3
February.....	(⁶)	151.7	253.0	(⁶)	152.6	130.3
March.....	114.0	151.9	258.0	139.8	152.6	130.3
April.....	(⁶)	153.8	257.0	(⁶)	152.6	130.3
May.....	(⁶)	153.9	257.0	(⁶)	153.3	131.0
June.....	113.9	154.4	254.0	139.8	153.3	131.6
July.....	(⁶)	154.6	256.0	(⁶)	153.4	133.5
August.....	(⁶)	154.9	257.0	(⁶)	153.1	132.3
September.....	113.5	155.8	258.0	139.8	153.0	131.0
October.....	(⁶)	153.9	260.0	(⁶)	151.8	131.0
November.....	(⁶)	154.2	258.0	(⁶)	151.1	131.0
December.....	113.7	155.1	259.0	(⁶)	150.9	131.0
1946: January.....	(⁶)	155.9	262.0	138.9	150.9	131.0
February.....	-----	155.8	-----	-----	-----	131.0

¹ These indexes show changes in retail prices and rents in cities. In general they are similar in construction and design to the index of consumer prices of moderate-income families in large cities prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, although different methods are used to collect the prices in different countries, and most indexes do not cover as many items as the United States index. The indexes given for Australian and New Zealand cities are weighted by the per capita consumption of the general population of the country, and are called retail-price indexes; those for Chungking represent changes in prices for goods purchased by all economic groups in the city's population. None of these indexes measures increases in living costs caused by moving to war production centers, the employment of wives in war plants, being "bombed out," or other wartime costs not connected with price changes, except that the indexes for Denmark includes increases in income taxes. None of these indexes fully reflects increase in costs caused by quality deterioration of consumer goods in the war period, because of the fact that in no country are statistical measurements of the quality of such goods available.

² The index, based on the 3 years ending June 1939, is an official conversion, without change, of an index based on 1928-29.

³ The index based on June-August 1939 is an official conversion of an index based on 1929 which in turn was converted from an index based on 1913-14. Weighting is based on a consumption study made in March 1930. Various adjustments have been made from time to time.

⁴ The series shown represents a combination of the index based on 1926-1930 with a wartime index having different weights, based on December 1942; the two indexes overlap for the month of December 1942.

⁵ The number of items given represents the types of goods and services priced, and not the number of grades or qualities priced for a given item. The entry applies to the most recent date for which information is available.

⁶ Not available.

⁷ July 1939 prices=100.

⁸ Figure relates to January of following year.

⁹ Figure relates to July.

¹⁰ Index not converted to August 1939 base.

industries and goods consumed differ would include different items in their indexes, but the indexes are probably not equally representative of consumers' expenditures in the respective countries. The indexes here given do, however, afford an indication of differences in price movements in the countries covered.

In both Canada and Australia the value of the official cost-of-living indexes used in connection with wage-stabilization programs have recently been challenged. In Canada, the United Steel Workers (CCL-CIO) claimed in February 1946 that the cost of living had increased considerably more during the war than was shown by the

official index, and other groups claimed that the cost of living had increased about 30 percent from August 1939 to January 1946, as contrasted with the increase of 18.9 percent shown in the official index. The official Canadian index is, however, generally accepted as an accurate measure of the changes in the prices of goods purchased by moderate-income families.

In Australia, an index of wholesale prices in Sydney for fresh fruits and vegetables, which are not included in the official retail-price (cost-of-living) index was computed by J. Lindsay³; that index showed that prices of fresh fruit had increased about 140 percent from July-September 1939 to April-June 1945, while vegetable prices had increased about 74 percent. During the same period, a rise of 12.8 percent occurred in the official retail-food index which includes only potatoes and onions among vegetables and only canned and dried fruits. Prices of potatoes and onions have been subsidized since April 1943, and have fallen in price since August 1939. Prices of canned and dried fruit have risen but much less than 140 percent. Mr. Lindsay does not present data on the trend of retail prices of fruits and vegetables, but his article implies that the trend has been similar to that of wholesale prices. The basic wage in Australia is tied directly to the "all items" retail-price index.

TABLE 5.—*Indexes of Wholesale Prices in Various Countries, August 1939–February 1946*¹

[August 1939=100]

Month	Australia	Canada	China (Chung-king)	Denmark	Egypt	Iran
Original base.....	July 1936–June 1939 ²	1927	July 1936–June 1937	1935	July–August 1939 ³	Mar. 21, 1936–Mar. 20, 1937
Number of items included.....	(4)	508	(4)	161	176	226
1939: August.....	100.0	100.0	⁴ 225.0	100.0	⁵ 100.0	100.0
December.....	106.2	113.0	316.0	128.8	122.6	110.0
1940: August.....	116.2	114.4	698.0	153.2	131.5	107.7
December.....	116.2	116.5	(4)	172.1	140.8	122.5
1941: June.....	115.5	125.0	(4)	182.0	159.2	141.5
December.....	122.2	129.5	2,760.0	189.2	181.2	177.6
1942: June.....	136.5	132.5	4,810.0	191.9	206.5	240.4
December.....	137.8	134.2	8,010.0	193.7	250.8	307.7
1943: June.....	141.2	137.6	12,700.0	192.8	269.8	422.3
December.....	139.6	141.8	22,800.0	193.7	292.9	497.0
1944: June.....	141.5	141.8	46,800.0	195.5	310.5	513.5
December.....	140.5	141.8	64,800.0	197.3	330.0	497.8
1945: January.....	140.3	142.2	76,200.0	197.3	333.0	514.2
February.....	141.1	142.3	96,300.0	197.3	334.0	487.3
March.....	141.6	142.5	127,500.0	198.2	334.0	462.6
April.....	142.7	143.0	159,200.0	197.3	332.0	460.4
May.....	141.8	142.5	189,300.0	197.3	327.0	468.6
June.....	142.5	142.7	204,200.0	191.9	325.0	468.6
July.....	142.6	143.8	230,400.0	191.0	327.0	455.9
August.....	142.7	143.0	246,000.0	190.1	328.4	455.9
September.....	142.4	142.0	208,200.0	188.3	330.3	443.9
October.....	142.1	142.3	203,700.0	185.6	(4)	441.7
November.....	141.2	142.6	237,300.0	183.8	(4)	475.3
December.....	(4)	142.9	240,300.0	183.8	(4)	504.5
1946: January.....	(4)	143.8	241,700.0	183.8	(4)	494.8
February.....	(4)	144.7	(4)	182.0	(4)	492.5

See footnotes at end of table.

³ Sydney Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Prices, in *Economic Record* (Journal of the Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand), Melbourne, December 1945 (p. 174)). The prices used were collected by the State Marketing Bureau.

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TABLE 5.—*Indexes of Wholesale Prices in Various Countries, August 1939–February 1946*¹—Continued

[August 1939=100]

Month	New Zealand	Norway	Palestine	Sweden	Switzerland	United Kingdom
Original base.....	1926-30	1938	June 1936	1935	August 1939	1930
Number of items included.....	106	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	200
1939: August.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
December.....	102.9	118.2	124.6	118.9	116.5	123.2
1940: August.....	113.0	138.2	135.2	131.5	135.6	142.8
December.....	117.0	149.2	155.6	144.1	152.5	151.5
1941: June.....	121.0	168.1	178.7	155.9	171.9	155.4
December.....	127.0	172.8	227.6	161.3	185.1	158.9
1942: June.....	133.2	175.1	246.9	169.4	194.9	162.7
December.....	136.3	177.3	304.6	175.7	---	164.4
1943: June.....	141.0	178.0	338.1	177.5	203.1	166.3
December.....	144.4	178.4	342.7	175.7	204.7	166.6
1944: June.....	144.4	180.0	333.4	177.5	207.9	169.3
December.....	145.5	180.4	353.9	175.7	206.0	170.4
1945: January.....	144.8	180.5	355.2	175.7	205.6	170.4
February.....	145.8	180.5	353.8	175.7	205.6	170.4
March.....	145.5	180.6	349.9	176.6	205.6	171.0
April.....	146.6	181.0	353.0	176.6	205.9	170.9
May.....	145.8	181.1	345.9	176.6	206.0	171.7
June.....	146.0	181.5	331.7	177.5	206.3	173.4
July.....	146.4	180.7	326.7	176.6	206.7	174.1
August.....	146.8	181.3	338.1	174.8	207.5	173.8
September.....	146.9	182.9	347.3	172.1	206.7	172.9
October.....	147.0	179.9	(⁴)	172.1	204.4	172.7
November.....	(⁴)	180.6	(⁴)	172.1	203.2	172.7
December.....	(⁴)	168.7	(⁴)	171.2	199.3	172.6
1946: January.....	(⁴)	169.2	(⁴)	166.7	200.1	175.2
February.....	(⁴)	169.5	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	174.9

¹ These indexes are based on prices paid for goods sold in primary markets, weighted in accordance with their relative importance in the countries concerned. The number and kind of items covered, the method of collecting prices, and the method of computing the indexes differ from country to country.

² The index, based on 3 years ending June 1939, is an official conversion of an index based on 1928-29. The earlier index was used in the present series for 1939 and 1940.

³ The index based on June-August 1939 is an official conversion of an index based on 1935.

⁴ Not available.

⁵ Index not converted to August 1939 base.

⁶ June-August 1939 prices=100.

TABLE 6.—*Indexes of Retail Prices of Food and Clothing Since August 1939, Compared with Cost-of-Living Indexes, in Various Countries*

[August 1939=100]

Country	Month and year	Indexes, in months specified, of—		
		Food	Clothing	Cost of living
Australia.....	September 1945.....	113.5	(¹)	123.0
Canada.....	January 1946.....	133.7	122.5	118.9
China (Chungking).....	January 1946 ²	180,600.0	229,500.0	181,000.0
Denmark.....	January 1946 ³	156.5	187.2	157.9
Iran.....	December 1945.....	683.4	584.6	626.7
New Zealand.....	December 1942 ⁴	108.4	(⁵)	113.4
Norway.....	February 1946.....	154.6	199.1	155.8
Palestine.....	October 1945.....	151.8	137.4	260.0
Sweden.....	December 1945 ³	137.7	160.6	138.9
Switzerland.....	January 1946.....	160.0	214.0	150.9
United Kingdom.....	February 1946.....	123.4	166.3	131.0

¹ In 1939 clothing was combined with miscellaneous items.

² Index is based on July 1936-June 1937=100.

³ Index is based on July 1939=100.

⁴ When the new wartime index of living costs was initiated, it was published without giving the component group indexes.

⁵ In 1939 clothing and furniture were combined in 1 group index.

BRITISH COUNTRIES

No changes in basic price control occurred in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom during the 7 months of 1945 following VE-day. In the United Kingdom the cost-of-living index rose 3 points from January to July 1945 and then declined 2 points by September 1945. However, during the first 2 months of 1946 Canada put into effect the first steps in a program aimed at gradual removal of price control and subsidies.⁴ The result of these changes were not expected to be reflected in the price indexes until the summer or fall of 1946.

Meat rationing was reimposed in Canada in September 1945 to permit larger shipments of food abroad, and in Great Britain food rations were reduced effective March 1946. In Australia clothing rationing was relaxed in November 1945, and footwear and knitted goods were removed from rationing. British clothing rations were also increased slightly, effective May 1946.

In Canada and Great Britain the continued use of emergency powers, upon which price control was based, was authorized through transitional emergency power acts. In Australia the Commonwealth Government continued to base its activities upon the wartime National Security Act; however, on April 1, 1946, the Commonwealth Prime Minister announced that the Government would seek the repeal of this act, effective December 31, 1946, but that authority for continued price stabilization would be sought. By the spring of 1946, as the result of action decided upon at a State premiers' conference of August 31, 1946, three of the six Australian States had passed legislation giving the Commonwealth Government power to continue price controls, but one State (Tasmania) refused to delegate such authority.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES

Price controls in Denmark and Sweden, effected during the war, continued with some adjustments after VE-day. In Norway the liberated Government, by provisional decree of May 8, 1945, established a system of control under a Price Directorate and local boards of control, similar to that in operation during the German occupation.

Cost of living in each of these three countries remained relatively stable throughout 1945. The increase in the cost-of-living index for Norway in April 1945 was principally the result of increased prices of tobacco and liquors which were reflected in the index for the first time, since the Germans had prohibited their inclusion; the decrease in October 1945 reflects the extended program of Government subsidy to producers. Wholesale prices in Denmark and in Sweden declined after VE-day with the lowering of import prices of certain raw materials and semimanufactured products as well as of certain finished commodities. The sharp drop in the wholesale index for Norway in December 1945 was almost entirely the result of a reduction in the price of petroleum products, made possible by elimination of Government taxes.

⁴ See Monthly Labor Review, March 1946, p. 400, for further details.

State subsidies to producers of specified commodities supported the Government price policy in each of these countries. In Denmark the subsidy to producers of butter, effective October 1945 to September 30, 1946, continued the program of Government subsidization begun in December 1941, while a subsidy to producers of pork, effective for the same period, was a new development in Danish Government aid to agriculture. Each of these subsidies is expected to cost the Government about 20 million kroner. Funds to cover the butter subsidy will be provided partly through taxes on exports and on sales to consuming industries such as restaurants, but no direct levy on domestic consumers will be used to maintain the price of export bacon.

The Swedish Riksdag in June 1945 voted to continue agricultural relief measures throughout the next fiscal year, with the State subsidy amounting to 140 million kroner.

The Norwegian Government, in order to keep prices down following the wage agreement of September 12, 1945 (which increased wages to compensate for about 75 percent of the increase in the cost of living since 1940), on September 28, 1945, announced extension of its price-stabilizing subsidy program to cover sugar, margarine, milk, cotton yarn, wool and firewood. Prices of bread, meat and butter already were subsidized; 210 million kroner, or about half of the revenue from the current sales tax on all commodities was used for that purpose. Revenue for the extended subsidy, which is expected to amount to 63 million kroner, also derives from the sales tax.

As a further measure of price control, the Norwegian Government on September 8, 1945, inaugurated a monetary and financial reconstruction program designed to remove excess purchasing power as a prerequisite to the discontinuance of certain economic controls, to recapture illicit profits made during the German occupation, and to secure a complete inventory of the national wealth as a basis for a just and productive tax system.

Rationing was continued, with some changes, in each of these countries.

FRANCE

Official prices in France continued to rise until the end of 1945. When Paris was liberated in August 1944, retail prices were 309 percent higher than at the outbreak of war in 1939, according to a report issued by the Ministry of Information. By August 1945, the increase was 403 percent and by January 1946, cost of living at official prices had risen 703 percent over 1939.

Unusual crop shortages reduced the quantity of foods available in 1945. Although bread rationing was suspended on November 1, 1945, it was reimposed January 1, 1946, and the ration was reduced to 300 grams daily per person—50 grams less than the ration of October 31, 1945.

When the Gouin Government was installed late in January 1946, it adopted a policy of stabilization. The official value of the franc had been set at 119 to the dollar on December 25, 1945, as compared with

49.6 since the liberation of France. In February 1946, the Government proposed plans for curbing expenditure and inflation and increasing production of consumer goods. In order to stop the interrelated rise of prices and wages, the labor unions agreed to the freezing of wages, except for production bonuses and overtime. In March, the Government gave labor enlarged powers in the administration of price control.

SWITZERLAND

A decline in the cost of living began in Switzerland in August 1945, with a seasonal drop in the price of potatoes. The decline continued in October and November, largely because of Government subsidies which permitted reduction in the prices of certain basic foods—bread, rice, legumes, and edible fats. Price control, established in 1932 and regulated by a law of 1938, was adapted but not dropped after the end of the war. Because of demands for wage increases to bring real wages up to prewar levels, the Government decided to lower prices by the subsidizing of foods which were consumed in large quantities by agricultural and other wage earners. As the food supply improved, the Federal War Food Office was able to increase rations of certain foods. In February 1946, the monthly rations per person of meat and edible oils were raised to 1.4 and 1.2 kilograms⁵ respectively. Smaller rations were expected, however, for the spring months.

ITALY

With the exception of flour and flour products, maintained at a constant legal price, prices in Italy continued to rise to the end of 1945. In Rome, the index of the cost of a fixed food budget providing 2,200 calories daily for 3.73 consuming units stood at 1,710 in June (September 1940=100) and 2,181 in December 1945. In Florence, Genoa, and Naples, food prices had risen 20 to 24 percent by the end of the year, and in Milan were 57 percent, above prices in July 1945. In Abruzzi and Marche in central Italy, food prices in December 1945 were 20 to 30 times higher than in 1940.

Only a small part of the theoretical, fixed food budget on which the indexes were based could be obtained through rationing; the large proportion which had to be procured on the free or black market consumed up to 90 percent of the family food budget used as a basis for these indexes. In Rome, the proportion obtainable by ration card rose from 6 percent in December 1944, to 13 percent in December 1945. In Florence, Genoa, and Naples, rationed food accounted for 25 to 31 percent of the fixed food budget.

Food shortages, caused by the decline of domestic production to less than 60 percent of prewar and inadequacy of food imports had reduced average per capita food consumption by the end of 1945 to less than 70 percent of prewar. Although certain types of farmers and dealers in the black market might be living as well as formerly, the average caloric intake was estimated at about 1,600 calories per capita per day. Beginning with February 1, 1946, the daily bread ration was to be lowered to 200 grams.

⁵ Kilogram=2.2 lbs.

MIDDLE EAST

The experience of Middle Eastern countries since the close of the war reflects continued shortages of both capital and consumer goods, not relieved as yet by adequate imports. The large war expenditures of the Allies in these countries have contributed to inflationary pressure. Price and other controls have not been able to prevent very large increases both in the level of wholesale and retail prices and in the cost of living during the war period. Iran experienced the greatest difficulties in controlling prices and obtaining and distributing supplies. Although domestic controls over prices, foreign exchange transactions, exports and imports have been continued, with only sporadic relaxation, the indexes have remained close to wartime peaks or have exceeded them since VE-day. The termination of the Middle East Supply Centre has enhanced the difficulty of the Middle Eastern countries in obtaining imports, since the supplying countries on which they depended before the war have maintained their exchange and export controls.

In the countries for which statistical information is available the peak in wholesale prices occurred early in 1945, followed by a slight but temporary recession after VE-day. Thus, the high point in the wholesale-price indexes occurred for Iran and Palestine in January 1945, for Egypt in February and March 1945. The indexes reached a low point in 1945 for Palestine in July, for Iran in October and for Egypt in June 1945. In each of these countries the index moved up again in the fall months. Wholesale prices for Iraq (not included in the table) remained higher throughout 1945 than in the preceding year.

The end of the war has brought no drop in the cost of living to these countries. In fact the Egyptian and Palestinian indexes reached the highest point on record respectively in September and October 1945. In Iraq a cost-of-living index for laborers compiled by an oil company, not shown on the table, also reached its peak in December 1945. In Iran the cost-of-living index declined 25 percent from its wartime peak in June 1944 to October 1945, owing to improvements in food supply and distribution. In the last 2 months of the year, however, it had climbed upwards once more and continued high during early 1946.

An index number of living costs, compiled by an oil company and based on articles normally purchased by European and American residents of Cairo, showed even more pronounced increases than did the Egyptian official index, especially for food, clothing, medicines and drugs, and laundry and sundries.

FAR EAST

Price increases in Chungking, China, since VJ-day have been far less marked than during the first half of 1945. The Government has recently revised its regulations on foreign exchange and control of imports and exports, but by the spring of 1946 the rebuilding of supplies and of transportation systems had not yet reached the point of making possible a move to stabilize prices throughout the country.

In Japan, political and economic uncertainties, and a growing shortage of food as well as other consumer goods has induced hoarding

and rising prices. Inflationary tendencies since VJ-day are indicated in the following tabulation of Bank of Japan notes in circulation:

	Millions of yen
July 31, 1945.....	28, 456
Aug. 31, 1945.....	42, 300
Oct. 20, 1945.....	42, 040
Nov. 20, 1945.....	45, 628
Dec. 20, 1945.....	51, 091
Jan. 20, 1946.....	56, 065
Feb. 20, 1946.....	61, 450

The Japanese Government, with the approval of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, has passed a series of measures to prevent price increases and black-market operations. The latest and most comprehensive of these became effective between February 25, 1946, and March 7, 1946, and provided for the recall of all existing currency and the issuance of new currency. In addition monthly bank withdrawals by individuals were limited to 300 yen (about \$20) for each head of a family and 100 yen for each family member; cash payment of a monthly salary of more than 500 yen was also prohibited, while salary payments by check were restricted through the withdrawal limitations.

Index of Consumers' Prices in Large Cities, March 1946¹

AVERAGE retail prices reached a new postwar peak in mid-March 1946. With higher prices for most principal items in the family budget, the consumers' price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics advanced 0.5 percent between February 15 and March 15 to 130.2 percent of the 1935-39 average. The index for March is 32.0 percent higher than for August 1939, the month before the beginning of the war.²

¹ The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1,524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another ½ point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of pre-war quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

² The indexes in the accompanying tables are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another. The data relate to the 15th of each month, except those for January 1941, in tables 1 and 2. For that month they were estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" decision of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940, to the next pricing date. The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to that order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 4 days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943, the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61. Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services. Rents are surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all-items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities because of the general stability of average rents at present, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter. Prices for fuel, electricity, and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

The food bill for moderate-income city families rose 0.4 percent during the month after having dropped 1.3 percent between mid-December and mid-February. The average price of sugar increased almost 5 percent following early February ceiling price adjustments by OPA to insure the continuation of large imports. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 1.7 percent as higher prices were reported for cabbage, lettuce, onions, and potatoes. Spinach dropped seasonally 14 percent. Cheese and peanut butter prices continued to edge upward by 2.3 and 1.4 percent, respectively.

Clothing costs increased 1.7 percent between mid-February and mid-March to a level 52.6 percent higher than in August 1939. Supplies of medium and inexpensive quality apparel continued low, although retailers in most cities indicated that they had received some shipments of preticketed garments during the month. Higher clothing costs were reported for men's wool suits, work clothing, business shirts, pajamas, and socks. Rayon and cotton dresses, manufactured under the Government's program to increase stocks of lower-priced garments, appeared in sufficient quantities in some cities to lower the cost of these articles. However, percale house dresses, cotton nightgowns, and women's underwear costs were higher in mid-March than in mid-February. Hosiery and gloves also cost more this spring, owing to the replacement of women's rayon stockings by nylon hosiery whenever obtainable, and the continued disappearance of lower-priced gloves. A moderate but widespread advance also occurred in shoe prices.

Residential rents increased 0.1 percent during the first quarter of 1946, the first increase since December 1944. Rents edged upward in 8 of the 16 cities surveyed in March, decreased slightly in 3 cities, and showed no change in the remainder. The largest change in rental bills occurred in Atlanta where an increase of 0.5 percent was reported between September 1945 and March 1946.

Rate reductions lowered the average cost of gas to domestic consumers in San Francisco and of electricity to consumers in Boston, Chicago, and Manchester.

The cost of miscellaneous goods and services increased 0.2 percent. Medical-care costs, particularly hospital rates, advanced in 18 cities. Upward adjustments in maximum charges resulted in increased prices for laundry services in Buffalo, Richmond, and Philadelphia. Charges for motion picture admissions, hair cuts, and beauty-shop services were higher in a few cities. Newspaper prices advanced in Seattle.

TABLE 1.—Index of Consumers' Prices for Moderate-Income Families and Percent of Change, March 1946 Compared With Earlier Months

Group	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This month	Last month	Year ago	Hold-the-line order	General Maximum Price Regulation	"Little Steel" decision	Month before war in Europe
Indexes (1935-39=100)							
All items.....	130.2	129.6	126.8	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food.....	140.1	139.6	135.9	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing.....	153.1	150.5	143.7	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent.....	108.4	108.4	108.3	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.2
Fuel, electricity, and ice.....	110.5	111.0	110.0	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas and electricity.....	92.9	93.8	95.5	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels and ice.....	127.7	127.8	124.1	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings.....	150.2	149.7	144.5	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous.....	125.9	125.6	123.6	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4
Percent of change to March 1946							
All items.....		+0.5	+2.7	+4.1	+12.2	+29.2	+32.0
Food.....		+4	+3.1	-2.0	+15.2	+43.5	+49.8
Clothing.....		+1.7	+6.5	+19.7	+21.3	+51.3	+52.6
Rent.....			+1	+4	-1.4	+3.2	+3.9
Fuel, electricity, and ice.....		-5	+5	+2.7	+5.3	+9.6	+13.3
Gas and electricity.....		-1.0	-2.7	-3.3	-3.8	-4.7	-6.2
Other fuels and ice.....		-1	+2.9	+7.6	+13.1	+22.8	+32.6
Housefurnishings.....		+3	+3.9	+20.1	+22.9	+49.9	+49.3
Miscellaneous.....		+2	+1.9	+9.2	+13.5	+23.7	+25.4

TABLE 2.—Percent of Changes in Consumers' Price Index From Specified Dates to March 1946, by Cities

City	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last month	Last year	Hold-the-line order	General Maximum Price Regulation	"Little Steel" decision	Month before war in Europe
Average.....	+0.5	+2.7	+4.1	+12.2	+29.2	+32.0
Atlanta, Ga.....		+2.3	+5.4	+14.7	+31.9	+34.3
Baltimore, Md.....	+5	+1.8	+3.0	+11.8	+31.2	+33.8
Birmingham, Ala.....	+2	+2.2	+5.9	+12.2	+31.1	+35.2
Boston, Mass.....	+6	+2.3	+2.8	+10.8	+26.8	+29.5
Buffalo, N. Y.....	+3	+2.4	+1.1	+8.0	+27.1	+32.2
Chicago, Ill.....	+2	+1.6	+2.8	+9.9	+26.5	+29.7
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	+3	+2.3	+4.5	+11.6	+29.9	+33.0
Cleveland, Ohio.....	+1	+1.5	+2.9	+10.9	+29.1	+31.7
Denver, Colo.....	+7	+2.3	+3.6	+11.5	+28.9	+30.7
Detroit, Mich.....	+2	+3.8	+3.8	+11.3	+30.9	+34.2
Houston, Tex.....	+6	+2.2	+2.6	+9.8	+25.1	+26.7
Indianapolis, Ind.....		+2.0	+3.3	+9.3	+27.5	+32.7
Jacksonville, Fla.....		+1.9	+4.7	+14.2	+33.6	+38.2
Kansas City, Mo.....	+3	+2.1	+4.2	+11.9	+29.8	+29.5
Los Angeles, Calif.....	+5	+3.0	+5.8	+12.7	+29.9	+32.4
Manchester, N. H.....		+1.6	+2.3	+10.6	+30.7	+33.9
Memphis, Tenn.....		+2.1	+3.8	+13.2	+32.8	+35.5
Milwaukee, Wis.....		+2.3	+2.6	+11.0	+28.1	+31.0
Minneapolis, Minn.....	+1	+2.4	+3.5	+8.8	+23.9	+26.5
Mobile, Ala.....		+2.3	+2.8	+10.6	+30.8	+33.2
New Orleans, La.....		+2.3	+3.5	+13.7	+32.2	+34.8
New York, N. Y.....	+7	+4.0	+6.4	+16.7	+30.9	+33.5
Norfolk, Va.....		+2.0	+1.4	+11.8	+33.0	+36.8
Philadelphia, Pa.....	+9	+2.7	+3.7	+12.8	+30.4	+32.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	+2	+2.8	+5.0	+13.3	+29.6	+33.3
Portland, Maine.....		+1.1	+2.0	+9.5	+28.7	+30.6
Portland, Oreg.....		+2.0	+3.7	+11.7	+33.2	+35.8
Richmond, Va.....		+1.5	+2.3	+9.8	+26.5	+28.6
St. Louis, Mo.....	+2	+2.8	+3.5	+11.1	+27.1	+30.9
San Francisco, Calif.....	+1	+1.4	+4.3	+13.6	+31.2	+34.5
Savannah, Ga.....	+2	+2.5	+5.2	+14.7	+36.8	+39.7
Scranton, Pa.....		+3.5	+2.7	+13.3	+29.6	+34.0
Seattle, Wash.....	+4	+2.1	+3.6	+10.7	+31.4	+33.8
Washington, D. C.....	+7	+4.1	+6.1	+14.4	+31.3	+33.1

TABLE 3.—Percent of Change in Consumers' Price Index, February to March 1946, by Groups of Items and by Cities

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity, and ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas and electricity	Other fuels and ice		
Average	+0.5	+0.4	+1.7	-0.5	-1.0	-0.1	+0.3	+0.2
Atlanta, Ga.		-1.2		.1	0	0		
Baltimore, Md.	+5	+1.0	-.4	0	0	0	+1.3	-.2
Birmingham, Ala.	+2	-.1	+.2	0	0	0	+1.7	+.9
Boston, Mass.	+6	+6	+2.4	-.7	-2.7	+.2	+1.3	-.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	+3	+.2	+.5	0	0	+.1	+.8	+.5
Chicago, Ill.	+2	+1	+2.9	-2.7	-6.1	0	-1.5	+.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	+3	+6	+.5	0	0	0	-.5	+.1
Cleveland, Ohio	+1	0	-1.0	0	0	0	-.3	0
Denver, Colo.	+7	+3	+4.3	0	0	0	+2.5	-.1
Detroit, Mich.	+2	+.2	+.8	0	-.1	+.1	+1.3	+.1
Houston, Tex.	+6	0	+4.0	0	0	0	+.5	+.3
Indianapolis, Ind.		+3		0	0	0		
Jacksonville, Fla.		+5		-.1	0	-.1		
Kansas City, Mo.	+3	+8	+.3	0	0	0	+.3	+.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	+5	+3	+2.2	0	0	0	0	+.1
Manchester, N. H.		+4		-2.4	-8.6	0		
Memphis, Tenn.		-.3		0	0	0		
Milwaukee, Wis.		+1		0	0	+.1		
Minneapolis, Minn.	+1	-.5	+2.6	0	0	0	+.4	-.3
Mobile, Ala.		-.1		+.1	0	+.3		
New Orleans, La.		+3		0	0	0		
New York, N. Y.	+7	+4	+3.5	-.6	0	-1.3	+.9	+.5
Norfolk, Va.		-.6		0	0	0		
Philadelphia, Pa.	+9	+1.0	+1.2	0	0	0	+1.3	+1.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	+2	+.7	-2.0	+.1	+.2	0	+.6	+.4
Portland, Maine		+.8		-.1	-.2	0		
Portland, Oreg.		+.8		+.5	-.2	+.8		
Richmond, Va.		-.7		0	0	0		
St. Louis, Mo.	-.2	+2	+.7	0	0	0	+1.1	+.2
San Francisco, Calif.	+1	+4	-.9	-5.0	-6.5	0	-.6	+.6
Savannah, Ga.	+2	-.6	+2.5	+.1	0	+.2	+3.5	-.2
Seranton, Pa.		+2.2		0	0	0		
Seattle, Wash.	+4	-.3	+1.1	+.4	0	+.7	+2.4	+1.5
Washington, D. C.	+7	+2	+3.6	0	0	0	+.8	+.2

TABLE 4.—Indexes of Consumers' Prices for Moderate-Income Families in Large Cities, 1935 to March 1946

Year and month	Indexes (1935-39=100) of cost of—						
	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity, and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
1935	98.1	100.4	96.8	94.2	100.7	94.8	98.1
1936	99.1	101.3	97.6	96.4	100.2	96.3	98.7
1937	102.7	105.3	102.8	100.9	100.2	104.3	101.0
1938	100.8	97.8	102.2	104.1	99.9	103.3	101.5
1939	99.4	95.2	100.5	104.3	99.0	101.3	100.7
1940	100.2	96.6	101.7	104.6	99.7	100.5	101.1
1941	105.2	105.5	106.3	106.2	102.2	107.3	104.0
1942	116.5	123.9	124.2	108.5	105.4	122.2	110.9
1943	123.6	138.0	129.7	108.0	107.7	125.6	115.8
1944	125.5	136.1	138.8	108.2	109.8	136.4	121.3
1945	128.4	139.1	145.9	108.3	110.3	145.8	124.1
1945:							
Jan. 15	127.1	137.3	143.0	(1)	109.7	143.6	123.3
Feb. 15	126.9	136.5	143.3	(1)	110.0	144.0	123.4
Mar. 15	126.8	135.9	143.7	108.3	110.0	144.5	123.6
Apr. 15	127.1	136.6	144.1	(1)	109.8	144.9	123.8
May 15	128.1	138.8	144.6	(1)	110.0	145.4	123.9
June 15	129.0	141.1	145.4	108.3	110.0	145.8	124.0
July 15	129.4	141.7	145.9	(1)	111.2	145.6	124.3
Aug. 15	129.3	140.9	146.4	(1)	111.4	146.0	124.5
Sept. 15	128.9	139.4	148.2	108.3	110.7	146.8	124.6
Oct. 15	128.9	139.3	148.5	(1)	110.5	146.9	124.7
Nov. 15	129.3	140.1	148.7	(1)	110.1	147.6	124.6
Dec. 15	129.9	141.4	149.4	108.3	110.3	148.3	124.8
1946:							
Jan. 15	129.9	141.0	149.7	(1)	110.8	148.8	125.4
Feb. 15	129.6	139.6	150.5	(1)	111.0	149.7	125.6
Mar. 15	130.2	140.1	153.1	108.4	110.5	150.2	125.9

1 Rents not surveyed in this month.

Retail Prices of Food in March 1946

RETAIL prices of food in March 1946 in relation to those in selected preceding periods are shown in the accompanying tables.

TABLE 1.—Percent of Change in Retail Prices of Food in 56 Large Cities Combined,¹ by Commodity Groups, in Specified Periods

Commodity group	Feb. 12, 1946, to Mar. 12, 1946	Mar. 13, 1945, to Mar. 12, 1946	May 18, 1943, to Mar. 12, 1946	Jan. 14, 1941, to Mar. 12, 1946	Aug. 15, 1939, to Mar. 12, 1946
All foods.....	+0.4	+3.1	-2.0	+43.3	+49.8
Cereals and bakery products.....	+1.5	+1.5	+2.5	+16.2	+18.1
Meats.....	0	+4	-5.1	+29.9	+37.2
Beef and veal.....	0	-1	-9.8	+8.1	+18.8
Pork.....	+2	+4	-10.1	+31.0	+28.2
Lamb.....	+1	+8	-3.2	+38.8	+38.7
Chickens.....	-7	-2.2	+1.8	+54.5	+58.8
Fish, fresh and canned.....	+4	+6.2	+13.6	+91.8	+128.6
Dairy products.....	+3	+2.6	+1	+30.4	+47.2
Eggs.....	-3.6	-1.2	-2.2	+42.7	+53.3
Fruits and vegetables.....	+1.3	+8.2	-3.9	+96.6	+98.5
Fresh.....	+1.7	+9.9	-4.6	+110.2	+111.5
Canned.....	-1.0	-2	-1.1	+41.8	+41.5
Dried.....	-5	+9	+6.9	+69.6	+87.0
Beverages.....	0	+3	+3	+37.4	+31.6
Fats and oils.....	+4	+1.8	-3	+56.8	+49.0
Sugar and sweets.....	+4.3	+4.7	+3.8	+38.9	+38.5

¹ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

TABLE 2.—Indexes of Retail Prices of Food in 56¹ Large Cities Combined² by Commodity Groups, for Specified Dates

[1935-39=100]

Commodity group	1946		1945	1943	1941	1939
	Mar. 12 ³	Feb. 12	Mar. 13	May 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods.....	140.1	139.6	135.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products.....	110.3	109.8	108.7	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats.....	131.3	131.3	130.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal.....	118.3	118.3	118.4	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork.....	112.8	112.6	112.4	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb.....	137.0	136.9	135.9	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens.....	150.2	151.2	153.6	147.6	97.2	94.8
Fish, fresh and canned.....	227.7	226.9	214.4	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products.....	137.0	136.6	133.5	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs.....	139.0	144.2	140.7	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables.....	183.4	181.1	169.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh.....	196.3	193.0	178.6	205.8	93.4	92.4
Canned.....	129.6	130.9	129.9	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried.....	168.9	169.8	167.4	158.0	99.6	90.1
Beverages.....	124.9	124.9	124.5	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils.....	125.9	125.4	123.7	126.3	80.3	84.3
Sugar and sweets.....	132.4	126.9	126.5	127.6	95.3	95.6

¹ Indexes based on 51 cities combined prior to March 1943.

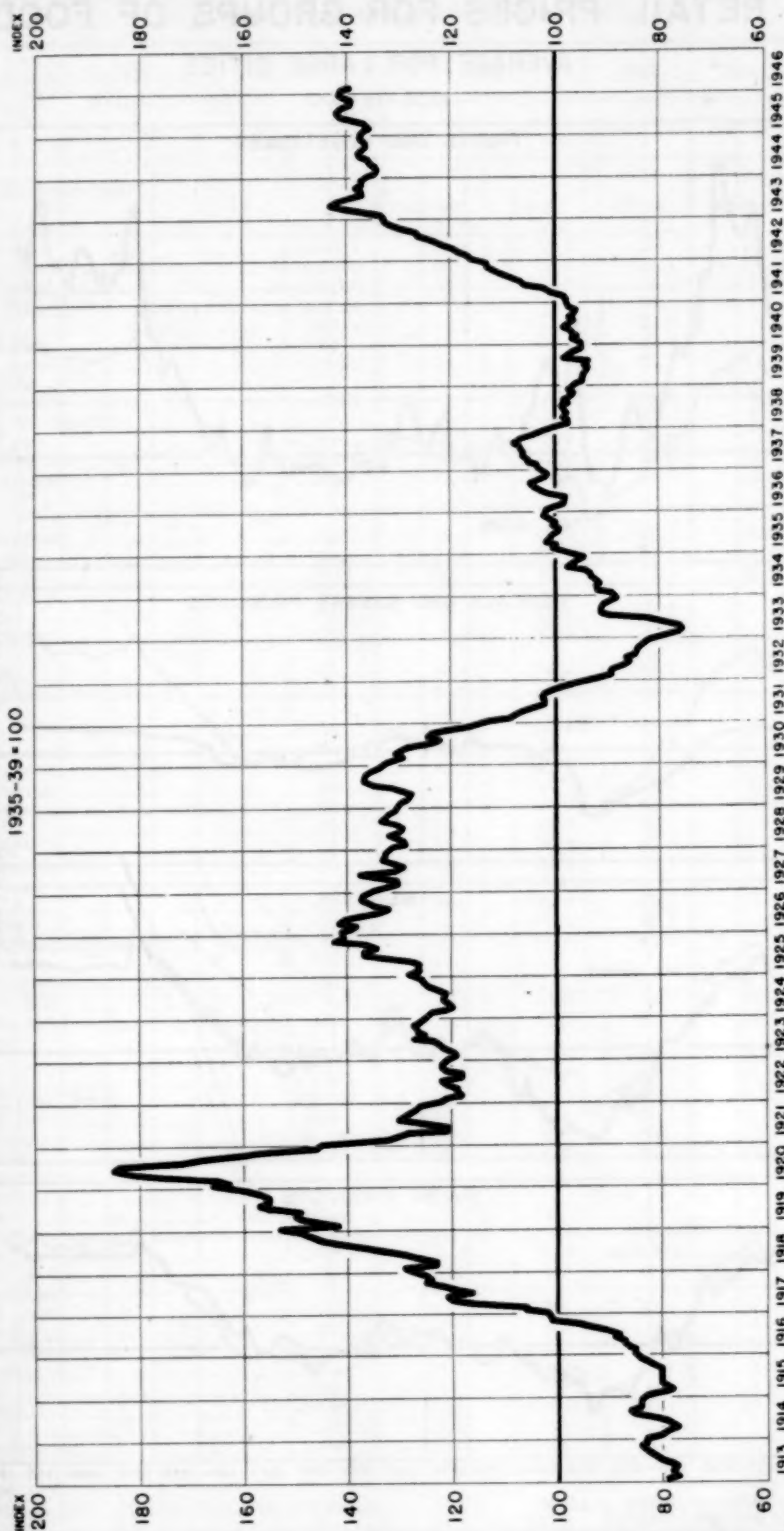
² Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined with the use of population weights.

³ Preliminary.

⁴ Revised.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD TO CITY WORKERS AVERAGE FOR LARGE CITIES

1935-39 = 100

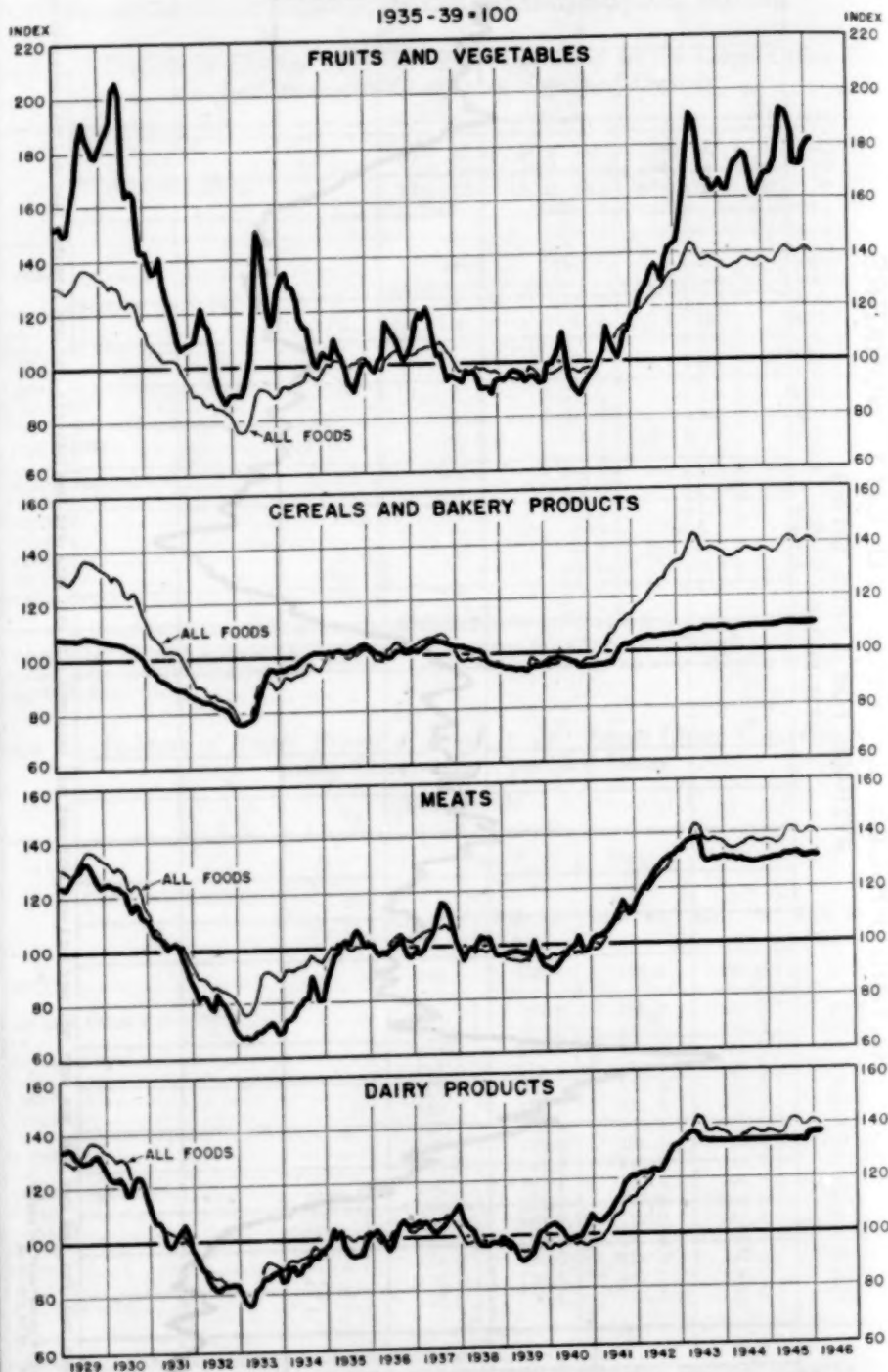


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

RETAIL PRICES FOR GROUPS OF FOOD

AVERAGE FOR LARGE CITIES

1935-39=100



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

TABLE 3.—Average Retail Prices of 78 Foods in 56 Large Cities Combined, March 1946
Compared With Earlier Months

Article	1946		1945	1941	1939
	Mar. 12 ¹	Feb. 12	Mar. 13	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
Cereals and bakery products:					
Cereals:	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
Flour, wheat ²5 pounds.....	31.9	32.0	32.1	20.7	17.9
Macaroni.....pound.....	15.6	15.6	15.7	13.8	14.0
Wheat cereal ³28 ounces.....	23.2	23.4	23.1	23.5	24.2
Corn flakes ⁴11 ounces.....	9.3	9.3	8.9	9.8	9.7
Corn meal.....pound.....	6.5	6.5	6.4	4.2	4.0
Rice ⁵do.....	12.9	*12.9	12.8	7.9	7.5
Rolled oats.....do.....	10.4	10.4	10.3	7.1	7.1
Flour, pancake ⁶20 ounces.....	12.4	12.4	12.3	(⁵)	(⁵)
Bakery products:					
Bread, white.....pound.....	8.9	8.9	8.8	7.8	7.8
Bread, whole-wheat.....do.....	9.7	9.7	9.6	8.7	8.8
Bread, rye.....do.....	9.9	*9.9	9.9	9.0	9.2
Vanilla cookies.....do.....	29.6	*28.6	28.9	25.1	(⁵)
Soda crackers.....do.....	18.6	18.6	18.9	15.0	14.8
Meats:					
Beef:					
Round steak.....do.....	40.8	40.8	40.4	38.6	36.4
Rib roast.....do.....	33.3	33.3	32.7	31.5	28.9
Chuck roast.....do.....	28.3	28.5	27.9	25.2	22.5
Stew meat ¹do.....	30.0	*29.8	29.3	(⁵)	(⁵)
Liver.....do.....	37.4	37.4	37.2	(⁵)	(⁵)
Hamburger.....do.....	27.2	27.2	27.5	(⁵)	(⁵)
Veal:					
Cutlets.....do.....	44.6	44.6	43.7	45.2	42.5
Roast, boned and rolled ¹do.....	35.9	34.7	34.9	(⁵)	(⁵)
Pork:					
Chops.....do.....	37.0	37.0	37.0	29.1	30.9
Bacon, sliced.....do.....	40.9	41.0	40.9	30.1	30.4
Ham, sliced.....do.....	50.7	50.3	50.0	45.1	46.4
Ham, whole.....do.....	35.9	*35.7	34.9	26.2	27.4
Salt pork.....do.....	22.2	22.2	22.0	16.7	15.4
Liver ³do.....	22.4	22.3	22.1	(⁵)	(⁵)
Sausage ³do.....	38.6	38.8	38.5	(⁵)	(⁵)
Bologna, big ¹do.....	33.9	33.9	33.6	(⁵)	(⁵)
Lamb:					
Leg.....do.....	40.4	*40.4	39.7	27.8	27.6
Rib chops.....do.....	45.9	46.0	45.3	35.0	36.7
Poultry: Roasting chickens.....do.....	45.5	45.8	46.2	31.1	30.9
Fish:					
Fish (fresh, frozen).....do.....	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Salmon, pink.....16-oz. can.....	24.9	24.8	23.6	15.7	12.8
Salmon, red ³do.....	43.3	42.9	40.3	26.4	23.1
Dairy products:					
Butter.....pound.....	54.8	54.7	49.9	38.0	30.7
Cheese.....do.....	38.1	*37.3	35.8	27.0	24.7
Milk, fresh (delivered).....quart.....	15.4	15.4	15.6	13.0	12.0
Milk, fresh (store).....do.....	14.5	14.5	14.5	11.9	11.0
Milk, evaporated.....14½ oz. can.....	9.9	9.9	10.0	7.1	6.7
Eggs: Eggs, fresh.....dozen.....	48.3	50.1	49.9	34.9	32.0
Fruits and vegetables:					
Fresh fruits:					
Apples.....pound.....	14.5	14.5	11.4	5.2	4.4
Bananas.....do.....	10.9	10.9	10.3	6.6	6.1
Oranges.....dozen.....	44.8	44.9	44.4	27.3	31.5
Grapefruit ³each.....	8.3	8.3	9.0	(⁵)	(⁵)
Fresh vegetables:					
Beans, green.....pound.....	20.2	21.1	20.2	14.0	7.2
Cabbage.....do.....	7.6	6.3	5.5	3.4	3.9
Carrots.....bunch.....	8.6	8.7	7.8	6.0	4.6
Lettuce.....head.....	12.0	11.0	12.1	8.4	8.4
Onions.....pound.....	8.8	8.4	5.4	3.6	3.6
Potatoes.....15 pounds.....	74.6	*72.2	77.4	29.2	34.4
Spinach.....pound.....	10.9	12.7	11.6	7.3	7.8
Sweet potatoes.....do.....	10.9	10.4	9.4	5.0	5.5
Beets ³bunch.....	9.5	*9.4	9.4	(⁵)	(⁵)
Canned fruits:					
Peaches.....No. 2½ can.....	28.0	28.1	27.9	16.5	17.1
Pineapple.....do.....	26.4	*27.5	26.8	20.9	21.0
Grapefruit juice.....No. 2 can.....	14.1	14.1	14.4	(⁵)	(⁵)

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3.—Average Retail Prices of 78 Foods in 56 Large Cities Combined, March 1946 Compared With Earlier Months—Continued

Article	1946		1945	1941	1939
	Mar. 12 ¹	Feb. 12	Mar. 13	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
Fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Canned vegetables:					
Beans, green..... No. 2 can.....	Cents 13.6	Cents *13.6	Cents 13.1 ¹	Cents 10.0	Cents 10.0
Corn..... do.....	14.8	14.8	14.8	10.7	10.4
Peas..... do.....	13.6	13.8	13.3	13.2	13.6
Tomatoes..... do.....	12.9	13.1	12.1	8.4	8.6
Soup, vegetable ² 11 oz. can.....	13.3	13.3	13.4	(³)	(³)
Dried fruits: Prunes..... pound.....	17.7	17.8	17.5	9.6	8.8
Dried vegetables:					
Navy beans..... do.....	11.7	11.7	11.3	6.5	5.8
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle ³ ounce.....	3.9	3.9	3.7	(³)	(³)
Beverages:					
Coffee..... pound.....	30.4	30.4	30.3	20.7	22.3
Tea..... ¼ pound.....	24.0	24.0	24.1	17.6	17.2
Cocoa ⁴ ½ pound.....	10.4	10.5	10.4	9.1	8.6
Fats and oils:					
Lard..... pound.....	18.7	*18.6	18.8	9.3	9.9
Shortening other than lard—					
In cartons..... do.....	20.1	20.2	20.0	11.3	11.7
In other containers..... do.....	24.9	24.8	24.6	18.3	20.2
Salad dressing..... pint.....	28.2	27.9	25.6	20.1	(⁵)
Oleomargarine..... pound.....	24.1	24.3	24.1	15.6	16.5
Peanut butter..... do.....	33.2	32.7	28.3	17.9	17.9
Oil, cooking or salad ⁶ pint.....	30.6	*30.8	30.7	(³)	(³)
Sugar and sweets:					
Sugar..... pound.....	7.1	6.7	6.7	5.1	5.2
Corn sirup..... 24 ounces.....	15.6	15.8	15.8	13.6	13.7
Molasses ⁷ 16 fl. ounces.....	20.3	20.2	20.3	17.3	*17.5
Apple butter ⁸ 16 ounces.....	14.9	15.2	13.6	(³)	(³)

¹ Preliminary.² Price formerly published for 10 pounds.³ Not included in index.⁴ Price formerly published for 8 ounces.⁵ Not priced.⁶ Composite price not computed.⁷ Price formerly published for 18 ounces avoirdupois.⁸ Revised.TABLE 4.—Indexes of Average Retail Prices of All Foods, by Cities,¹ on Specified Dates
[1935-39=100]

City	1946		1945	1941	1939
	Mar. 12 ²	Feb. 12	Mar. 13	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
United States.....	140.1	139.6	135.9	97.8	93.5
Atlanta, Ga.....	137.7	139.4	136.9	94.3	92.5
Baltimore, Md.....	147.1	145.6	144.1	97.9	94.7
Birmingham, Ala.....	142.8	142.9	139.8	96.0	90.7
Boston, Mass.....	134.1	133.3	130.6	95.2	93.5
Bridgeport, Conn.....	136.9	135.6	132.8	96.5	93.2
Buffalo, N. Y.....	136.4	136.1	135.2	100.2	94.5
Butte, Mont.....	135.7	135.2	133.2	98.7	94.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa ³	144.1	141.9	139.0	95.9	95.1
Charleston, S. C.....	138.3	138.4	134.0	95.9	95.1
Chicago, Ill.....	138.7	138.6	135.0	98.2	92.3
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	136.9	136.1	134.1	96.5	90.4
Cleveland, Ohio.....	142.7	142.7	139.6	99.2	93.6
Columbus, Ohio.....	131.2	131.1	128.1	93.4	88.1
Dallas, Tex.....	138.3	137.6	133.8	92.6	91.7
Denver, Colo.....	139.9	139.5	136.9	94.8	92.7
Detroit, Mich.....	137.0	136.7	131.4	97.0	90.6
Fall River, Mass.....	133.8	132.1	130.6	97.5	95.4
Houston, Tex.....	139.3	139.3	134.8	102.6	97.8
Indianapolis, Ind.....	136.0	135.6	132.1	98.2	90.7
Jackson, Miss. ⁴	146.6	146.6	147.1	105.3	90.7

See footnotes at end of table.

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TABLE 4.—Indexes of Average Retail Prices of All Foods, by Cities,¹ on Specified Dates—Continued

[1935-39=100]

City	1946		1945	1941	1939
	Mar. 12 ²	Feb. 12	Mar. 13	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
Jacksonville, Fla.	146.5	145.8	142.8	98.8	95.8
Kansas City, Mo.	133.6	132.6	130.3	92.4	91.5
Knoxville, Tenn. ³	159.1	158.1	156.3	97.1	
Little Rock, Ark.	137.9	138.1	136.1	95.6	94.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	148.9	148.4	142.7	101.8	94.6
Louisville, Ky.	132.9	132.7	130.2	95.5	92.1
Manchester, N. H.	136.4	135.8	132.7	96.6	94.9
Memphis, Tenn.	148.8	149.2	144.4	94.2	89.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	136.5	136.3	133.8	95.9	91.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	131.8	132.5	129.3	99.0	95.0
Mobile, Ala.	147.7	147.9	143.9	97.9	95.5
Newark, N. J.	140.8	141.7	137.5	98.8	95.6
New Haven, Conn.	137.0	135.2	133.5	95.7	93.7
New Orleans, La.	151.5	151.1	151.0	101.9	97.6
New York, N. Y.	142.3	141.8	136.4	99.5	95.8
Norfolk, Va.	144.5	145.4	141.4	95.8	93.6
Omaha, Nebr.	132.5	131.8	129.6	97.9	92.3
Peoria, Ill.	143.9	144.6	139.7	99.0	93.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	139.0	137.6	134.3	95.0	93.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	141.4	140.4	133.8	98.0	92.5
Portland, Maine	134.8	133.7	131.4	95.3	95.9
Portland, Oreg.	149.9	148.6	145.8	101.7	96.1
Providence, R. I.	139.9	139.1	134.8	96.3	93.7
Richmond, Va.	136.5	137.5	133.5	93.7	92.2
Rochester, N. Y.	135.9	134.4	132.6	99.9	92.3
St. Louis, Mo.	142.6	142.3	138.1	99.2	93.8
St. Paul, Minn.	131.1	131.0	128.2	98.6	94.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	142.5	141.7	139.0	97.5	94.6
San Francisco, Calif.	148.3	147.7	146.2	99.6	93.8
Savannah, Ga.	154.7	155.6	150.7	100.5	96.7
Scranton, Pa.	141.8	138.8	135.9	97.5	92.1
Seattle, Wash.	145.6	146.1	143.0	101.0	94.5
Springfield, Ill.	144.1	143.9	140.8	96.2	94.1
Washington, D. C.	141.3	141.0	136.8	97.7	94.1
Wichita, Kans. ³	148.0	147.6	147.5	97.2	
Winston-Salem, N. C. ³	141.5	140.3	137.1	93.7	

¹ Aggregate costs of 61 foods in each city (54 foods prior to March 1943), weighted to represent total purchases by wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

² Preliminary.

³ June 1940=100.

TABLE 5.—Indexes of Retail Food Prices in 56 Large Cities Combined,¹ 1913 to March 1946

[1935-39=100]

Year	All-foods index	Year	All-foods index	Year and month	All-foods index	Year and month	All-foods index
1913	79.9	1926	137.4	1939	95.2	May	138.8
1914	81.8	1927	132.3	1940	96.6	June	141.1
1915	80.9	1928	130.8	1941	105.5	July	141.7
1916	90.8	1929	132.5	1942	123.9	August	140.9
1917	116.9	1930	126.0	1943	138.0	September	139.4
1918	134.4	1931	103.9	1944	136.1	October	139.3
1919	149.8	1932	86.5	1945	139.1	November	140.1
		1933	84.1			December	141.4
1920	168.8			1945			
1921	128.3	1934	93.7			1946	
1922	119.9	1935	100.4	January	137.3	January	141.0
1923	124.0	1936	101.3	February	136.5	February	139.6
1924	122.8	1937	105.3	March	135.9	March	140.1
1925	132.9	1938	97.8	April	136.6		

¹ Indexes based on 51 cities combined prior to March 1943.

Wholesale Prices in March 1946

HIGHER prices for a number of commodities, both agricultural and industrial, were responsible for an advance of 1.1 percent in average primary market prices during March 1946. The wholesale price index¹ of the Bureau of Labor Statistics rose to 108.9 percent of the 1926 average, 3 percent above the level at the end of the war and more than 45 percent above August 1939.

As was true in February, the rise in the general average was divided almost equally between price advances for agricultural and for non-agricultural commodities. Farm product prices rose 2.0 percent, foods 1.5 percent, and all other commodities an average of 0.9 percent. The accelerated advance in prices of nonagricultural commodities, a major feature of price developments during the first quarter of 1946, brought average prices for these goods to a level 3.0 percent above March 1945.

Nonagricultural commodity groups showing important rises during March were building materials, 3.3 percent; textile products, 2.4 percent; and metals and metal products, 1.7 percent.

The rise of 2.0 percent in average prices for farm products was the result of higher prices for grains, apples, and fresh vegetables. Grains rose 2.1 percent, on the average, as continued heavy demand and short commercial supplies raised prices to higher ceilings allowed early in the month. Livestock quotations rose fractionally, with short supplies. In addition sales of heavier weight calves and lambs tended to raise average prices. Prices for white potatoes, not under ceiling controls, rose sharply during March, and sweetpotatoes, onions, and apples were higher. Lemons declined seasonally and average prices for oranges were lower as smaller sizes moved to market. Reflecting the decrease in Commodity Credit Corporation selling prices in February, domestic wool quotations averaged lower in March. Cotton quotations continued to advance.

The higher prices for fruits and vegetables were primarily responsible for the 1.5 percent advance in the index for foods. In addition meat and lard prices rose to higher ceilings allowed by OPA, following wage advances allowed to packing-house workers. Cheese and sugar prices were higher.

Manufacturers' prices for men's outerclimbing rose as OPA allowed cost-plus pricing for men's suits, topcoats, and other specified garments. Quotations for cotton yarns and fabrics moved up again to higher ceilings. Generally the ceiling increases were in accordance with the Bankhead amendment to the Stabilization Extension Act of 1944, but in addition OPA allowed incentive price increases to stimulate production of fabrics of certain constructions.

Prices for farm machinery continued to rise with additional ceiling adjustments allowed individual manufacturers. Iron and steel averaged higher in March than in February, reflecting the mid-February price advances and higher ceilings for pig iron allowed in March.

¹ The Bureau of Labor Statistics wholesale price data, for the most part, represent prices in primary markets. In general, the prices are those charged by manufacturers or producers or are those prevailing on commodity exchanges. The monthly index is calculated from a monthly average of 1-day-a-week prices. It should not be compared directly with the weekly wholesale price index, which is designed as an indicator of week-to-week changes. Indexes for the last 2 months are preliminary.

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TABLE 1.—Indexes of Wholesale Prices by Groups and Subgroups of Commodities March 1946 Compared With Previous Months

Group and subgroup	Indexes (1926=100)				Percentage change to March 1946 from—		
	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	Aug. 1939	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	Aug. 1939
All commodities.....	108.9	107.7	105.3	75.0	+1.1	+3.4	+45.2
Farm products.....	133.4	130.8	127.2	61.0	+2.0	+4.9	+118.7
Grains.....	136.7	133.9	129.8	51.5	+2.1	+5.3	+165.4
Livestock and poultry.....	133.5	132.7	135.6	66.0	+6	-1.5	+102.3
Other farm products.....	131.4	127.9	120.5	60.1	+2.7	+9.0	+118.6
Foods.....	109.4	107.8	104.6	67.2	+1.5	+4.6	+62.8
Dairy products.....	116.1	115.8	110.8	67.9	+3	+4.8	+71.0
Cereal products.....	96.2	96.1	95.1	71.9	+1	+1.2	+33.8
Fruits and vegetables.....	133.1	127.5	115.9	58.5	+4.4	+14.8	+127.5
Meats.....	109.6	108.1	107.7	73.7	+1.4	+1.8	+48.7
Other foods.....	97.7	96.5	94.7	60.3	+1.2	+3.2	+62.0
Hides and leather products.....	119.8	119.6	117.8	92.7	+2	+1.7	+29.2
Shoes.....	128.6	128.2	126.3	100.8	+3	+1.8	+27.6
Hides and skins.....	117.6	117.6	116.4	77.2	0	+1.0	+52.3
Leather.....	104.0	103.9	101.3	84.0	+1	+2.7	+23.8
Other leather products.....	115.2	115.2	115.2	97.1	0	0	+18.6
Textile products.....	104.7	102.2	99.7	67.8	+2.4	+5.0	+54.4
Clothing.....	109.5	109.4	107.4	81.5	+1	+2.0	+34.4
Cotton goods.....	132.9	125.8	119.9	65.5	+5.6	+10.8	+102.9
Hosiery and underwear.....	75.5	75.3	71.5	61.5	+3	+5.6	+22.8
Rayon.....	30.2	30.2	30.2	28.5	0	0	+6.0
Silk.....				44.3			
Woolen and worsted goods.....	112.7	112.7	112.7	75.5	0	0	+49.3
Other textile products.....	109.6	102.0	100.9	63.7	+7.5	+8.6	+72.1
Fuel and lighting materials.....	85.0	85.1	83.4	72.6	-1	+1.9	+17.1
Anthracite.....	104.0	104.0	95.3	72.1	0	+9.1	+44.2
Bituminous coal.....	125.2	125.1	120.6	96.0	+1	+3.8	+30.4
Coke.....	134.9	134.9	130.7	140.2	0	+3.2	+29.5
Electricity.....	(1)	(1)	59.0	75.8			
Gas.....	(1)	79.1	77.7	86.7			
Petroleum and products.....	61.2	61.6	64.3	51.7	-6	-4.8	+18.4
Metals and metal products.....	108.4	106.6	104.2	93.2	+1.7	+4.0	+16.3
Agricultural implements.....	98.5	98.1	97.5	93.5	+4	+1.0	+5.3
Farm machinery.....	99.6	99.2	98.7	94.7	+4	+9	+5.2
Iron and steel.....	107.0	103.3	98.1	95.1	+3.6	+9.1	+12.5
Motor vehicles.....	112.8	112.8	112.8	92.5	0	0	+21.9
Nonferrous metals.....	86.1	85.7	85.9	74.6	+5	+2	+15.4
Plumbing and heating.....	95.1	95.1	92.4	79.3	0	+2.9	+19.9
Building materials.....	124.9	120.9	117.1	89.6	+3.3	+6.7	+39.4
Brick and tile.....	117.4	116.9	110.7	90.5	+4	+6.1	+29.7
Cement.....	102.3	101.5	99.4	91.3	+8	+2.9	+12.0
Lumber.....	167.6	160.1	154.3	90.1	+4.7	+8.6	+86.0
Paint and paint materials.....	107.8	107.8	106.3	82.1	0	+1.4	+31.3
Plumbing and heating.....	95.1	95.1	92.4	79.3	0	+2.9	+19.9
Structural steel.....	120.1	113.7	107.3	107.3	+5.6	+11.9	+11.9
Other building materials.....	112.3	107.2	103.8	89.5	+4.8	+8.2	+25.5
Chemicals and allied products.....	96.0	95.9	94.9	74.2	+1	+1.2	+29.4
Chemicals.....	97.0	97.0	95.8	83.8	0	+1.3	+15.8
Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	111.7	111.5	106.8	77.1	+2	+4.6	+44.9
Fertilizer materials.....	81.9	81.9	81.9	65.5	0	0	+25.0
Mixed fertilizer.....	86.6	86.6	86.6	73.1	0	0	+18.5
Oils and fats.....	102.1	101.8	102.0	40.6	+3	+1	+151.5
Housefurnishing goods.....	106.9	106.5	104.5	85.6	+4	+2.3	+24.9
Furnishings.....	110.9	110.1	107.5	90.0	+7	+3.2	+23.2
Furniture.....	102.9	102.9	101.5	81.1	0	+1.4	+26.9
Miscellaneous.....	95.6	95.6	94.6	73.3	0	+1.1	+30.4
Automobile tires and tubes.....	73.0	73.0	73.0	60.5	0	0	+20.7
Cattle feed.....	159.6	159.6	159.6	68.4	0	0	+133.3
Paper and pulp.....	113.7	113.7	108.0	80.0	0	+5.3	+42.1
Rubber, crude.....	46.2	46.2	46.2	34.9	0	0	+32.4
Other miscellaneous.....	98.9	98.9	98.9	81.3	0	0	+21.6
Raw materials.....	120.5	118.9	115.7	66.5	+1.3	+4.1	+81.2
Semimanufactured articles.....	100.4	98.8	95.0	74.5	+1.6	+5.7	+34.8
Manufactured products.....	104.5	103.4	101.6	79.1	+1.1	+2.9	+32.1
All commodities other than farm products.....	103.4	102.5	100.4	77.9	+9	+3.0	+32.7
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	102.2	101.3	99.2	80.1	+9	+3.0	+27.6

¹ No quotation.

Mercury quotations were higher, with reduced shipments from foreign sources.

Higher prices for lumber and for steel building materials raised average building materials prices 3.3 percent. Lumber prices in March averaged 4.7 percent above February, largely reflecting February ceiling increases, and higher average prices in March for structural steel, pipe, and hardware also reflected ceiling adjustments in earlier months. Prices of brick and cement also were higher.

Index Numbers by Commodity Groups, 1926 to March 1946

Index numbers of wholesale prices by commodity groups for selected years from 1926 to 1945, and by months from March 1945 to March 1946, are shown in table 2.

TABLE 2.—*Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Groups of Commodities*

[1926=100]

Year and month	Farm products	Foods	Hides and leather products	Textile products	Fuel and lighting materials	Metals and metal products	Building materials	Chemicals and allied products	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous	All commodities
1926.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1929.....	104.9	99.9	109.1	90.4	83.0	100.5	95.4	94.0	94.3	82.6	95.3
1932.....	48.2	61.0	72.9	54.9	70.3	80.2	71.4	73.9	75.1	64.4	64.8
1933.....	51.4	60.5	80.9	64.8	66.3	79.8	77.0	72.1	75.8	62.5	65.9
1936.....	80.9	82.1	95.4	71.5	76.2	87.0	86.7	78.7	81.7	70.5	80.8
1937.....	86.4	85.5	104.6	76.3	77.6	95.7	95.2	82.6	89.7	77.8	86.3
1938.....	68.5	73.6	92.8	66.7	76.5	95.7	90.3	77.0	86.8	73.3	78.6
1939.....	65.3	70.4	95.6	69.7	73.1	94.4	90.5	76.0	86.3	74.8	77.1
1940.....	67.7	71.3	100.8	73.8	71.7	95.8	94.8	77.0	88.5	77.3	78.6
1941.....	82.4	82.7	108.3	84.8	76.2	99.4	103.2	84.4	94.3	82.0	87.3
1942.....	105.9	99.6	117.7	96.9	78.5	103.8	110.2	95.5	102.4	89.7	98.8
1943.....	122.6	106.6	117.5	97.4	80.8	103.8	111.4	94.9	102.7	92.2	103.1
1944.....	123.3	104.9	116.7	98.4	83.0	103.8	115.5	95.2	104.3	93.6	104.0
1945.....	128.2	106.2	118.1	100.1	84.0	104.7	117.8	95.2	104.5	94.7	105.8
<i>1945</i>											
March.....	127.2	104.6	117.8	99.7	83.4	104.2	117.1	94.9	104.5	94.6	105.3
April.....	129.0	105.8	117.9	99.6	83.5	104.2	117.1	94.9	104.5	94.8	105.7
May.....	129.9	107.0	117.9	99.6	83.7	104.3	117.3	94.9	104.5	94.8	106.0
June.....	130.4	107.5	118.0	99.6	83.9	104.7	117.4	95.0	104.5	94.8	106.1
July.....	129.0	106.9	118.0	99.6	84.3	104.7	117.5	95.3	104.5	94.8	105.9
August.....	126.9	106.4	118.0	99.6	84.8	104.7	117.8	95.3	104.5	94.8	105.7
September.....	124.3	104.9	118.7	100.1	84.1	104.9	118.0	95.3	104.6	94.8	105.2
October.....	127.3	105.7	118.6	101.0	84.2	105.0	118.3	95.5	104.7	94.8	105.9
November.....	131.1	107.9	118.8	101.1	84.6	105.2	118.7	95.7	104.7	94.8	106.8
December.....	131.5	108.6	118.9	101.4	84.8	105.6	119.5	96.1	104.7	94.8	107.1
<i>1946</i>											
January.....	129.9	107.3	119.4	101.6	84.9	105.7	120.0	96.0	106.2	95.3	107.1
February.....	130.8	107.8	119.6	102.2	85.1	106.6	120.9	95.9	106.5	95.6	107.7
March.....	133.4	109.4	119.8	104.7	85.0	108.4	124.9	96.0	106.9	95.6	108.9

The price trend for specified years and months since 1926 is shown in table 3 for the following groups of commodities: Raw materials, semimanufactured articles, manufactured products, commodities other than farm products, and commodities other than farm products and foods.¹

¹ The list of commodities included under the classifications "Raw materials," "Semimanufactured articles," and "Manufactured products" was shown on pages 10 and 11 of Bulletin No. 785, Wholesale Prices, July-December and Year 1943.

TABLE 3.—Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Special Groups of Commodities

[1926=100]

Year and month	Raw materials	Semi-manufactured articles	Manufactured products	All commodities other than farm products	All commodities other than farm products and foods	Year and month	Raw materials	Semi-manufactured articles	Manufactured products	All commodities other than farm products	All commodities other than farm products and foods
1926.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1945					
1929.....	97.5	93.9	94.5	93.3	91.6	March.....	115.7	95.0	101.6	100.4	99.2
1932.....	55.1	59.3	70.3	68.3	70.2	April.....	116.8	95.0	101.8	100.5	99.3
1933.....	56.5	65.4	70.5	69.0	71.2	May.....	117.7	95.0	101.8	100.6	99.4
1936.....	79.9	75.9	82.0	80.7	79.6	June.....	118.2	95.4	101.8	100.7	99.6
						July.....	117.5	95.3	101.8	100.7	99.7
1937.....	84.8	85.3	87.2	86.2	85.3	August.....	116.3	95.5	101.8	100.9	99.9
1938.....	72.0	75.4	82.2	80.6	81.7	September.....	114.8	96.5	101.7	100.9	99.8
1939.....	70.2	77.0	80.4	79.5	81.3	October.....	116.6	96.8	101.9	101.0	100.1
1940.....	71.9	79.1	81.6	80.8	83.0	November.....	118.9	96.9	102.2	101.3	100.2
1941.....	83.5	86.9	89.1	88.3	89.0	December.....	119.2	97.6	102.5	101.6	100.5
1942.....	100.6	92.6	98.6	97.0	95.5	1946					
1943.....	112.1	92.9	100.1	98.7	96.9	January.....	118.3	97.6	102.9	101.9	100.8
1944.....	113.2	94.1	100.8	99.6	98.5	February.....	118.9	98.8	103.4	102.5	101.3
1945.....	116.8	95.9	101.8	100.8	99.7	March.....	120.5	100.4	104.5	103.4	102.2

Weekly Fluctuations

Weekly changes in wholesale prices by groups of commodities during February and March 1946 are shown by the index numbers in table 4. These indexes are not averaged to obtain an index for the month but are computed only to indicate the fluctuations from week to week.

TABLE 4.—Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Commodity Groups, February and March 1946

[1926=100]

Commodity group	Mar. 30	Mar. 23	Mar. 16	Mar. 9	Mar. 2	Feb. 23	Feb. 16	Feb. 9	Feb. 2
All commodities.....	108.7	108.4	108.4	108.2	107.6	107.4	107.2	107.1	106.8
Farm products.....	133.3	132.9	133.1	133.9	130.7	131.1	131.0	130.4	129.7
Foods.....	109.5	109.4	109.5	109.2	107.9	108.3	108.0	107.1	106.7
Hides and leather products.....	120.1	120.1	120.1	120.1	120.1	120.1	120.1	120.0	119.8
Textile products.....	104.3	102.4	101.9	101.9	101.4	101.1	101.1	101.1	101.1
Fuel and lighting materials.....	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.4	85.6	85.7	85.8	85.4
Metals and metal products.....	107.9	107.9	107.7	107.8	107.8	105.8	105.8	105.8	105.8
Building materials.....	123.6	123.6	123.3	121.1	121.0	120.2	120.0	119.9	119.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	95.9	96.0	96.0
Housefurnishing goods.....	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.3	108.0	108.0	106.8	106.8	106.8
Miscellaneous.....	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.3	95.0
Raw materials.....	121.1	120.9	121.0	121.4	119.5	119.7	119.7	119.3	118.9
Semimanufactured articles.....	100.5	100.3	99.7	99.6	99.6	98.5	98.5	97.5	97.5
Manufactured products.....	104.5	104.3	104.3	103.8	103.7	103.4	103.2	103.2	102.9
All commodities other than farm products.....	103.3	103.0	103.0	102.6	102.5	102.2	102.0	101.9	101.7
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	102.3	102.0	101.9	101.6	101.5	101.1	101.1	101.1	100.9

Labor Turn-Over

Labor Turn-Over in Manufacturing, Mining, and Public Utilities, February 1946

FACTORY workers quit their jobs at the rate of 38 per 1,000 in February, the lowest rate since December 1942. The hiring rate dropped considerably, but remained high enough to more than offset total separations, indicating a net gain in manufacturing employment in plants which were not involved in strikes.

February normally shows a decided decline in the total accession rate because of fewer hiring days in the month. Despite this usual downward movement, two of the industries—lighting equipment and meat products—showed definite evidence of accelerated hiring. The difference in accession rates as between men and women narrowed in the month.

Seventeen of the 19 major groups—all except the iron and steel and the food groups—reported decreases in the separation rate. The increases in these two groups reflected higher lay-off rates. Some meat-packing plants were forced to lay off a number of workers because of a seasonal decline in the receipt of livestock. Workers were also laid off by firms which were short of materials as a result of the steel strike. For all manufacturing industries combined, however, both the lay-off and discharge rates remained at the January level of 5 per 1,000 and 18 per 1,000, respectively.

Primarily because of relatively higher quits, the total separation rate for women workers continued to exceed that for men. Women were separated from their jobs at the rate of 71 per 1,000, men at the rate of 59 per 1,000. In the durable-goods group of manufacturing industries, involuntary separations were considerably higher for women than for men. This situation existed in each of the major durable-goods groups, with the exception of the electrical-machinery group, in which women represented over a third of the total employment even before the war. Many comments were received from firms in the heavy industries indicating that veterans were replacing women employees.

It should be borne in mind that the separation and accession rates here given reflect conditions only in plants which were in operation, and should be used with caution because of the elimination from the reports of plants involved in labor-management disputes.

TABLE 1.—Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Manufacturing Industries¹

Class of turn-over and year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total separation:												
1946.....	6.8	² 6.3										
1945.....	6.2	6.0	6.8	6.6	7.0	7.9	7.7	17.9	12.0	8.6	7.1	5.9
1943.....	7.1	7.1	7.7	7.5	6.7	7.1	7.6	8.3	8.1	7.0	6.4	6.6
1939.....	3.2	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.5
Quit:												
1946.....	4.3	² 3.8										
1945.....	4.6	4.3	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.2	6.2	6.7	5.6	4.7	4.0
1943.....	4.5	4.7	5.4	5.4	4.8	5.2	5.6	6.3	6.3	5.2	4.5	4.4
1939.....	.9	.6	.8	.8	.7	.7	.7	.8	1.1	.9	.8	.7
Discharge:												
1946.....	.5	² .5										
1945.....	.7	.7	.7	.6	.6	.7	.6	.7	.6	.5	.5	.4
1943.....	.5	.5	.6	.5	.6	.6	.7	.7	.6	.6	.6	.6
1939.....	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.2	.1
Lay-off: ³												
1946.....	1.8	² 1.8										
1945.....	.6	.7	.7	.8	1.2	1.7	1.5	10.7	4.5	2.3	1.7	1.3
1943.....	.7	.5	.5	.6	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.7	1.0
1939.....	2.2	1.9	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.7
Military and miscellaneous: ⁴												
1946.....	.2	² .2										
1945.....	.3	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2
1943.....	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7	.7	.6	.6
Accession:												
1946.....	8.5	² 8.6										
1945.....	7.0	5.0	4.9	4.7	5.0	5.9	5.8	5.9	7.4	8.6	8.7	6.9
1943.....	8.3	7.9	8.3	7.4	7.2	8.4	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.2	6.6	5.2
1939.....	4.1	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.9	4.2	5.1	6.2	5.9	4.1	2.8

¹ Month-to-month employment changes as indicated by labor turn-over rates are not precisely comparable to those shown by the Bureau's employment and pay-roll reports, as the former are based on data for the entire month while the latter refer, for the most part, to a 1-week period ending nearest the middle of the month. In addition, labor turn-over data, beginning in January 1943, refer to all employees, whereas the employment and pay-roll reports relate only to production workers. The turn-over sample is not so extensive as that of the employment and pay-roll survey—proportionately fewer small plants are included; printing and publishing, and certain seasonal industries, such as canning and preserving, are not covered.

² Preliminary.

³ Including temporary, indeterminate, and permanent lay-offs.

⁴ Miscellaneous separations comprise not more than 0.1 in these figures. In 1939 these data were included with quits.

TABLE 2.—Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Selected Groups and Industries,¹ February 1946²

Industry	Total separation		Quit		Discharge		Lay-off		Military and miscellaneous		Total accession	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.
Manufacturing												
Durable.....	6.4	7.2	3.4	3.9	0.5	0.5	2.3	2.5	0.2	0.3	6.8	8.9
Nondurable.....	6.2	6.4	4.3	4.7	.4	.5	1.3	1.0	.2	.2	6.7	8.1
Iron and steel and their products.....	5.4	5.3	3.2	3.4	.5	.5	1.5	1.1	.2	.3	6.0	7.0
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	(³)	3.1	(³)	2.2	(³)	.1	(³)	.5	(³)	.3	(³)	3.6
Gray-iron castings.....	7.1	8.9	5.3	6.1	.9	1.1	.6	1.4	.3	.3	9.9	11.9
Malleable-iron castings.....	6.7	8.4	4.7	7.0	.4	.5	1.4	.6	.2	.3	8.2	11.3
Steel castings.....	4.1	5.4	2.7	3.1	.4	.4	.8	1.6	.2	.3	5.0	6.1
Cast-iron pipe and fittings.....	4.2	4.8	3.3	3.6	.4	.6	.3	.3	.2	.3	8.7	8.8
Tin cans and other tinware.....	9.0	11.2	4.3	6.7	1.8	3.1	2.6	1.0	.3	.4	5.3	11.8
Wire products.....	3.8	4.6	1.2	2.2	.2	.3	2.2	1.7	.2	.4	1.8	5.0
Cutlery and edge tools.....	4.2	7.1	3.3	4.8	.6	1.4	.2	.7	.1	.2	6.2	6.5
Tools (except edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws).....	3.7	5.6	2.7	4.1	.5	.7	.4	.5	.1	.3	4.5	7.9
Hardware.....	6.4	7.0	4.7	5.2	.9	1.0	.5	.6	.3	.2	8.6	12.3
Stoves, oil burners, and heating equipment.....	11.4	6.4	4.0	4.3	.7	.9	6.5	.9	.2	.3	5.9	13.0

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2.—Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Selected Groups and Industries,¹ February 1946²—Continued

Industry	Total separation		Quit		Discharge		Lay-off		Military and miscellaneous		Total accession	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.
<i>Manufacturing—Continued</i>												
Iron and steel and their products—Con.												
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings	5.9	6.3	4.6	4.3	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.2	0.5	8.0	8.2
Stamped and enameled ware and galvanizing	7.8	7.7	4.2	4.9	.3	.7	3.1	1.9	.2	.2	6.9	11.6
Fabricated structural-metal products	5.6	7.7	2.9	3.8	.7	.8	1.9	2.8	.1	.3	6.1	8.3
Bolts, nuts, washers, and rivets	3.5	4.5	2.1	2.9	.3	.3	.7	1.0	.4	.3	4.0	5.4
Forgings, iron and steel	2.8	4.4	1.8	2.3	.2	.2	.7	1.8	.1	.1	4.0	6.6
Electrical machinery	5.7	6.4	3.4	3.7	.5	.6	1.6	1.9	.2	.2	7.9	9.3
Electrical equipment for industrial use	5.7	6.4	3.5	3.8	.7	.7	1.3	1.7	.2	.2	6.6	8.5
Radios, radio equipment, and phonographs	6.7	6.7	3.8	4.1	.5	.6	2.1	1.9	.3	.1	9.3	10.5
Communication equipment, except radios	3.1	3.9	2.1	2.3	.2	.4	.7	1.0	.1	.2	5.9	8.2
Machinery, except electrical	4.6	5.5	2.4	2.9	.4	.5	1.6	1.9	.2	.2	4.9	7.1
Engines and turbines	6.5	6.2	2.1	2.6	.5	.6	3.8	2.8	.1	.2	6.0	8.7
Agricultural machinery and tractors	(3)	5.0	(3)	3.1	(3)	.3	(3)	1.4	(3)	.2	(3)	6.5
Machine tools	3.9	5.4	1.7	2.7	.4	.2	1.7	2.3	.1	.2	4.1	6.2
Machine-tool accessories	5.0	7.3	2.2	2.8	.5	.6	2.2	3.7	.1	.2	5.1	7.7
Metalworking machinery and equipment, not elsewhere classified	4.0	5.0	2.8	2.8	.5	.5	.5	1.5	.2	.2	5.1	6.9
General industrial machinery, except pumps	4.4	5.9	2.4	3.0	.5	.6	1.2	2.1	.3	.2	4.7	6.9
Pumps and pumping equipment	5.2	4.7	2.1	2.6	.5	.6	2.4	1.4	.2	.1	5.2	6.8
Transportation equipment, except automobiles	11.3	13.1	3.5	4.3	.6	.7	7.0	7.9	.2	.2	7.2	9.2
Aircraft	8.5	8.6	3.0	3.7	.3	.4	5.1	4.4	.1	.1	6.8	8.5
Aircraft parts, including engines	8.6	7.9	2.5	2.5	.3	.3	5.7	5.0	.1	.1	6.7	7.1
Shipbuilding and repairs	13.7	16.7	3.9	5.0	.9	1.0	8.6	10.5	.3	.2	7.5	9.9
Automobiles ⁴	5.4	6.6	1.9	2.6	.3	.3	3.1	3.1	.1	.6	5.5	11.7
Motor vehicles, bodies, and trailers ⁴	4.2	5.8	1.6	2.5	.2	.3	2.3	2.3	.1	.7	5.3	12.5
Motor-vehicle parts and accessories ⁴	7.5	8.7	2.4	2.9	.4	.5	4.6	5.0	.1	.3	6.1	9.9
Nonferrous metals and their products	5.3	7.3	3.4	4.0	.5	.6	1.2	2.4	.2	.3	7.5	9.7
Primary smelting and refining, except aluminum and magnesium	3.8	4.9	2.3	2.5	.2	.3	1.2	1.8	.1	.3	5.1	6.1
Rolling and drawing of copper and copper alloys	4.3	5.6	3.0	3.7	.4	.7	.8	1.0	.1	.2	5.4	8.5
Lighting equipment	5.7	10.3	5.3	3.9	.1	.2	.2	6.0	.1	.2	12.2	11.6
Nonferrous-metal foundries, except aluminum and magnesium	6.1	9.0	3.5	4.9	.8	.9	1.4	2.8	.4	.4	7.5	10.6
Lumber and timber basic products	7.1	8.6	5.3	6.3	.4	.4	1.2	1.7	.2	.2	8.6	11.7
Sawmills	7.2	8.5	5.2	6.2	.4	.4	1.5	1.7	.1	.2	8.8	11.0
Planing and plywood mills	4.4	7.3	3.5	5.0	.3	.4	.4	1.7	.2	.2	6.2	10.9
Furniture and finished lumber products	8.3	8.9	5.6	6.8	.7	.8	1.8	1.1	.2	.2	9.0	12.4
Furniture, including mattresses and bedsprings	8.7	8.9	5.7	7.0	.7	.8	2.1	.9	.2	.2	9.5	13.3
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.8	6.4	3.5	4.0	.5	.4	.6	1.7	.2	.3	8.2	9.9
Glass and glass products	4.6	7.5	3.1	4.0	.5	.4	.7	2.8	.3	.3	10.5	11.1
Cement	5.7	5.2	4.4	4.1	.6	.5	.3	.4	.4	.2	7.4	9.1
Brick, tile, and terra cotta	5.4	5.9	4.4	4.6	.7	.8	.2	.3	.1	.2	8.0	10.9
Pottery and related products	4.7	4.9	3.8	4.1	.5	.4	.2	.2	.2	.2	6.3	9.2
Textile-mill products	5.9	6.4	4.9	5.3	.4	.5	.4	.4	.2	.2	7.1	9.2
Cotton	7.1	7.7	6.1	6.6	.5	.5	.3	.4	.2	.2	8.2	10.2
Silk and rayon goods	5.7	6.1	4.5	4.9	.4	.5	.6	.5	.2	.2	7.3	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2.—Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Selected Groups and Industries,¹ February 1946²—Continued

Industry	Total separation		Quit		Discharge		Lay-off		Military and miscellaneous		Total accession	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.
Manufacturing—Continued												
Textile-mill products—Continued												
Woolen and worsted, except dyeing and finishing.....	4.2	4.9	3.2	3.7	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	6.6	8.1
Hosiery, full-fashioned.....	3.3	4.2	2.9	3.6	.3	.3	.1	.3	(³)	(³)	5.7	7.9
Hosiery, seamless.....	5.6	6.2	5.2	5.6	.2	.2	.2	.3	(³)	.1	7.0	8.8
Knitted underwear.....	5.0	5.6	4.3	4.9	.5	.5	.2	.1	(³)	.1	6.7	7.9
Dyeing and finishing textiles, including woolen and worsted.....	4.3	4.5	2.8	2.7	.6	.6	.7	.9	.2	.3	5.9	7.2
Apparel and other finished textile products.....												
Men's and boys' suits, coats, and overcoats.....	3.9	4.1	3.3	3.6	.1	.2	.4	.2	.1	.1	5.6	6.5
Men's and boys' furnishings, work clothing, and allied garments.....	5.2	6.1	4.4	5.4	.2	.2	.5	.5	.1	(³)	5.7	7.9
Leather and leather products.....												
Leather.....	5.1	5.6	4.4	4.8	.3	.3	.3	.3	.1	.2	6.3	8.3
Boots and shoes.....	4.1	5.7	3.2	4.3	.2	.6	.5	.7	.2	.1	4.8	7.9
	5.4	5.6	4.7	4.9	.3	.3	.3	.2	.1	.2	6.6	8.4
Food and kindred products.....												
Meat products.....	9.9	7.9	5.8	5.7	.7	.7	3.1	1.3	.3	.2	8.3	8.4
Grain-mill products.....	12.5	8.3	6.9	6.4	.8	.8	4.4	.9	.4	.2	10.0	8.8
	6.8	6.7	4.5	5.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	.4	.3	.2	6.3	8.7
Tobacco manufactures.....												
	6.2	8.9	4.3	5.6	.2	.4	1.5	2.8	.2	.1	6.3	9.1
Paper and allied products.....												
Paper and pulp.....	5.6	7.3	4.0	5.6	.5	.7	.9	.7	.2	.3	6.8	9.8
Paper boxes.....	4.8	6.3	3.2	4.8	.4	.6	1.0	.7	.2	.2	6.1	8.9
	7.9	9.8	6.0	7.8	.7	.8	.9	.8	.3	.4	8.0	12.1
Chemicals and allied products.....												
Paints, varnishes, and colors.....	4.3	5.5	2.2	2.5	.4	.4	1.5	2.4	.2	.2	4.6	5.8
Rayon and allied products.....	3.5	4.5	2.5	2.5	.4	.6	.4	1.2	.2	.2	4.9	5.9
Industrial chemicals, except explosives.....	3.7	4.2	2.1	2.5	.5	.3	.9	1.2	.2	.2	4.5	5.2
Small-arms ammunition.....	3.5	4.2	2.1	2.3	.4	.5	.8	1.2	.2	.2	4.5	6.0
	(³)	16.1	(³)	2.3	(³)	.4	(³)	12.5	(³)	.9	(³)	5.2
Products of petroleum and coal.....												
Petroleum refining.....	2.4	3.3	1.1	1.6	.2	.2	.9	1.3	.2	.2	2.9	4.1
	2.2	3.0	1.0	1.4	.1	.1	.9	1.3	.2	.2	2.6	3.8
Rubber products.....												
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	4.3	6.2	3.4	4.7	.3	.4	.4	.7	.2	.4	6.3	9.0
Rubber footwear and related products.....	3.6	5.3	2.8	4.2	.2	.3	.3	.4	.3	.4	5.1	8.0
Miscellaneous rubber industries.....	5.1	7.0	4.4	6.1	.2	.2	.3	.4	.2	.3	7.4	9.2
	6.0	7.8	4.3	5.2	.6	.7	.9	1.5	.2	.4	8.3	10.9
Miscellaneous industries.....												
	(³)	4.9	(³)	2.8	(³)	.3	(³)	1.6	(³)	.2	(³)	6.9
Nonmanufacturing												
Metal mining.....												
Iron ore.....	5.7	6.3	4.9	4.9	.5	.5	.2	.6	.1	.3	6.5	8.1
Copper ore.....	(³)	4.0	(³)	1.8	(³)	.1	(³)	1.6	(³)	.5	(³)	3.3
Lead and zinc ore.....	8.0	8.1	7.0	6.6	.7	.9	.1	.3	.2	.3	8.8	10.2
	5.5	6.2	4.7	5.5	.5	.5	.2	.1	.1	.1	6.4	9.9
Coal mining:												
Anthracite.....	2.4	2.4	1.8	1.8	(³)	.1	.4	.4	.2	.1	3.1	3.6
Bituminous coal.....	4.9	4.9	4.0	4.0	.2	.3	.4	.3	.3	.3	5.2	6.8
Public utilities:												
Telephone.....	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Telegraph.....	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)

¹ Since January 1943 manufacturing firms reporting labor turn-over have been assigned industry codes on the basis of current products. Most plants in the employment and pay-roll sample, comprising those which were in operation in 1939, are classified according to their major activity at that time, regardless of any subsequent change in major products.

² Preliminary.

³ Not available.

⁴ February data based on incomplete returns.

⁵ Less than 0.05.

⁶ Because the majority of plants which manufactured small-arms ammunition during the war years have reconverted to peacetime production, the January 1946 rates are the final figures.

TABLE 3.—*Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) for Men and Women in All Manufacturing and Selected Groups,¹ February 1946²*

Industry	Total separation				Quit				Accession			
	Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Women	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.
All manufacturing.....	5.9	6.3	7.1	7.9	3.3	3.8	5.0	5.7	6.8	8.8	6.4	7.7
Durable.....	5.9	6.7	8.1	9.6	3.1	3.6	4.5	5.4	6.9	9.2	6.1	7.6
Nondurable.....	5.8	5.7	6.8	7.2	3.6	3.9	5.2	5.8	6.7	8.2	6.6	7.7
Iron and steel and their products.....	4.9	5.0	7.9	8.8	2.9	3.2	5.1	5.6	6.1	7.6	5.7	7.4
Electrical machinery.....	4.9	5.2	6.9	7.8	2.4	2.6	4.6	5.0	7.0	8.5	8.9	10.5
Machinery, except electrical.....	4.4	5.2	6.4	7.5	2.1	2.6	3.5	4.2	5.2	7.5	3.3	4.8
Transportation equipment, except automobiles.....	10.8	12.5	13.7	14.2	3.5	4.2	4.1	5.1	7.6	10.1	3.7	4.3
Automobiles.....	5.0	5.9	8.4	11.1	1.6	2.4	3.9	5.0	5.4	10.4	7.0	10.3
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	5.1	6.7	6.0	9.4	3.2	3.7	4.0	5.0	7.4	10.0	7.9	8.5
Lumber and timber basic products.....	6.9	7.8	9.4	14.3	5.2	6.0	6.2	8.4	9.0	12.2	2.6	2.9
Furniture and finished lumber products.....	7.9	8.5	9.4	10.6	5.4	6.6	6.2	7.9	9.8	13.6	5.7	7.8
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	4.6	6.1	5.4	7.6	3.3	3.8	4.0	4.9	8.7	10.4	6.3	7.9
Textile-mill products.....	5.7	6.0	5.9	6.7	4.5	4.8	5.2	5.9	8.1	10.3	6.6	8.0
Apparel and other finished textile products.....	3.4	3.5	5.1	5.8	2.4	2.5	4.5	5.3	5.2	6.0	5.9	8.0
Leather and leather products.....	4.4	5.1	6.0	6.2	3.7	4.2	5.3	5.6	6.0	8.6	6.6	8.0
Food and kindred products.....	9.4	7.2	11.4	10.2	5.1	5.2	7.8	7.4	8.0	8.5	9.0	8.3
Tobacco manufactures.....	5.5	5.6	6.6	10.8	4.5	3.5	4.1	6.8	6.8	10.7	6.2	8.2
Paper and allied products.....	5.0	6.6	7.3	8.9	3.4	5.1	5.7	6.9	6.9	10.2	5.3	7.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	3.7	4.9	6.7	7.5	1.8	2.0	3.6	4.0	4.9	6.2	3.2	4.4
Products of petroleum and coal.....	2.1	2.6	6.2	11.5	1.0	1.3	3.8	4.9	2.9	4.2	2.6	2.7
Rubber products.....	3.9	5.6	5.9	7.9	3.0	4.3	4.6	6.0	6.1	9.2	6.8	8.6
Miscellaneous industries.....	(3)	4.0	(3)	6.6	(3)	1.8	(3)	4.5	(3)	7.0	(3)	6.6

¹ These figures are based on a slightly smaller sample than that for all employees, inasmuch as some firms do not report separate data for women.

² Preliminary figures.

³ Not available.

Building Operations

Building Construction in Urban Areas, March 1946

THE dollar volume of building construction started in urban areas during March 1946 was twice that of the preceding month when the level was already greater than in any other month during the period for which monthly data are available (January 1942-March 1946). It is likely that many builders rushed construction plans in March in order to get work under way before the appearance of the construction limitation order, which was issued March 26. Total valuations approximated 734 million dollars in March 1946, as compared with 361 million dollars in the preceding month and only 113 million dollars in March 1945. The entire increase for the month occurred in non-Federal (private and State and local government) work, which rose from 341 million to 717 million dollars; federally financed building construction declined slightly, from 20 million to 17 million dollars.

Although all classes of urban building construction shared in the tremendous gain during March, new nonresidential building advanced the most, rising from 148 million to 344 million dollars. Of this 196-million-dollar increase, 106 million occurred in commercial buildings, 53 million in industrial buildings, and 28 million in community buildings (schools, hospitals, churches, etc.). Home construction also increased markedly during the month, from 145 million to 268 million dollars. At the same time, additions, alterations, and repairs rose from 68 million to 122 million dollars.

TABLE 1.—Value of Building Construction Started in All Urban Areas, by Class of Construction and by Source of Funds, March 1946 ¹

Class of construction	Value (in millions)								
	Total			Non-Federal			Federal		
	March 1946	Percent of change from—		March 1946	Percent of change from—		March 1946	Percent of change from—	
		February 1946	March 1945		February 1946	March 1945		February 1946	March 1945
All construction.....	\$734	+103.8	+552.5	\$717	+110.5	+894.5	\$17	-12.9	-57.5
New residential.....	268	+85.4	+885.1	263	+92.2	+896.4	5	-31.9	+534.7
New nonresidential.....	344	+132.8	+526.0	334	+136.8	+1780.5	10	+51.4	-72.1
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	122	+79.8	+301.6	120	+91.6	+330.4	2	+72.0	-41.7

¹ Percentage change computed before rounding.

The 52,625 new family dwelling units placed under construction in urban areas in March 1946 compares with 32,936 in February 1946 and 8,039 in March 1945. Federal contracts were let for 2,658 units in March of this year and for only 72 units in March 1945. At the present time most federally financed residential building consists of temporary war housing which has been relocated for veterans.

TABLE 2.—*Number and Value of New Dwelling Units Started in all Urban Areas, by Source of Funds and by Type of Dwelling, March 1946*

Source of funds and type of dwelling	Number of dwelling units			Value (in thousands)		
	March 1946	Percent of change from—		March 1946	Percent of change from—	
		February 1946	March 1945		February 1946	March 1945
All dwellings.....	52,625	+59.8	+554.6	\$256,868	+84.5	+874.8
Privately financed.....	49,967	+75.3	+527.2	251,625	+90.8	+861.6
1-family.....	41,778	+73.6	+557.9	217,320	+86.4	+908.8
2-family ¹	2,651	+47.9	+194.9	11,605	+74.3	+364.9
Multifamily ²	5,538	+109.9	+671.3	22,700	+162.2	+966.7
Federally financed.....	2,658	-40.0	+3591.7	5,243	-28.5	+2734.1

¹ Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

² Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

Comparison of First Quarter of 1945 and 1946

Urban building construction started during the first quarter of this year totaled 1,401 million dollars, almost five and a third times the amount (264 million dollars) reported in the corresponding period of 1945. Home construction jumped from 62 million dollars in the first 3 months of 1945 to 539 million dollars in 1946; new nonresidential building construction rose from 126 million to 616 million dollars, and additions, alterations, and repairs from 76 million to 246 million dollars. Non-Federal work, valued at 1,361 million dollars, was eight times the 1945 volume; Federal activity fell during the year from 95 million to 40 million dollars.

TABLE 3.—*Value of Building Construction Started in All Urban Areas, by Class of Construction and by Source of Funds, First 3 Months of 1945 and 1946*

Class of construction	Value (in millions)								
	Total			Non-Federal			Federal		
	First 3 months of —		Percent of change	First 3 months of —		Percent of change	First 3 months of —		Percent of change
	1946	1945		1946	1945		1946	1945	
All construction	\$1,401	\$264	+430.7	\$1,361	\$169	+705.3	\$40	\$95	-57.9
New residential.....	539	62	+769.4	523	58	+801.7	16	4	+300.0
New nonresidential.....	616	126	+388.9	599	44	+1,261.4	17	82	-79.3
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	246	76	+223.7	239	67	+256.7	7	9	-22.2

TABLE 4.—Number and Value of New Dwelling Units Started in All Urban Areas, by Source of Funds and by Type of Dwelling, First 3 Months of 1945 and 1946

Source of funds and type of dwelling	Number of dwelling units			Value (in thousands)		
	First 3 months of—		Percent of change	First 3 months of—		Percent of change
	1946	1945		1946	1945	
All dwellings.....	113,164	19,253	+487.8	\$518,096	\$60,538	+755.8
Privately financed.....	104,388	18,347	+469.2	502,497	57,233	+778.0
1-family.....	87,636	14,773	+493.2	438,986	46,708	+839.9
2-family ¹	5,752	1,480	+288.6	23,211	4,082	+468.6
Multifamily ²	11,000	2,088	+426.8	40,300	6,443	+525.5
Federally financed.....	8,776	912	+862.3	15,599	3,305	+372.0

¹ Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.² Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

Construction From Federal Funds

The value of contracts awarded and force-account work started during February and March 1946 and March 1945 on all construction projects financed wholly or partially from Federal funds and reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics is shown in table 5. This table includes all types of construction both inside and outside the corporate limits of cities in continental United States.

The contracts awarded and force-account work started on federally financed building construction inside the corporate limits of cities in urban areas were valued at \$17,170,041 in March 1946, \$19,707,310 in February 1946, and \$40,430,003 in March 1945.

TABLE 5.—Value of Contracts Awarded and Force-Account Work Started on Federally Financed Construction in Continental United States, by Type of Project, March 1946

Type of project	Value (in thousands)		
	March 1946 ¹	February 1946 ²	March 1945 ³
All types.....	\$63,173	\$56,526	\$80,362
Airports ⁴	412	60	1,029
Buildings:			
Residential.....	8,280	12,200	3,956
Nonresidential.....	15,206	9,583	65,186
Electrification ⁴	710	1,723	701
Highways, streets, and roads.....	24,992	22,958	2,305
Reclamation.....	5,278	3,514	2,614
River, harbor, and flood control.....	7,988	6,129	1,111
Water and sewer.....	61	206	1,610
Miscellaneous.....	246	153	1,850

¹ Preliminary; subject to revision. Because of delay in receipt of contract notifications the total shown is probably an understatement of from 20 to 30 percent. The revised figure will be shown next month. The greater part will be for nonresidential building. Water and sewer and miscellaneous projects (most dual or multipurpose projects that cannot be classified separately) will probably also be changed materially but to a lesser degree. Little or no change can be expected in the following: Highways, streets, and roads; river, harbor and flood control; and reclamation.

² Revised.³ Exclusive of hangars and other buildings which are included under building construction.⁴ Includes the value of loan agreements made for Rural Electrification projects.

Trend of Employment, Earnings, and Hours

Summary of Employment Reports for March 1946

MANUFACTURING employment increased 423,000 in March as a result of settlement of some of the major labor-management disputes. Other gains in major nonmanufacturing industries except mining contributed to an over-all rise of 688,000 in nonagricultural establishments between February and March, bringing the total number to 35,929,000. Virtually no change occurred in unemployment, reported by the Bureau of the Census as continuing at a level of 2.7 million in March.

Industrial and Business Employment

The number of production workers in manufacturing was 10,407,000 in March, an increase of 424,000 above February, but about 2 million less than at VJ-day. Employment in the durable-goods manufacturing industries increased by 379,000, about 90 percent of the gain being concentrated in the iron and steel group. Six other major durable-goods groups—machinery, except electrical machinery; lumber; stone, clay, and glass; automobiles; furniture; and electrical machinery—together accounted for increased employment of 62,000 workers.

Increases in the lumber, stone, and furniture groups were partly seasonal but in each of these groups of industries employment was not only greater than in January or February but also substantially above employment in March 1945. In the metal and metalworking industries, on the other hand, employment showed a decrease from a year ago and had not recovered to the level of January 1946.

In the transportation-equipment and nonferrous-industry groups, where employment decreases of 22,000 employees occurred between February and March, the declines may be attributed in part to strikes, which retarded the flow of material necessary for car building and disrupted smelting and alloying operations.

Increases in all but one of the nondurable-goods groups combined to increase employment by 45,000 workers. The textile and apparel industries alone accounted for about 60 percent of this gain, with smaller increases in employment occurring in the leather, paper products, and rubber industries. Only the food industry showed a decrease in employment of 19,000 persons, owing in part to the usual seasonal decline, and in part to Government restrictions on domestic use of grain for malt liquors, flour, and prepared feeds.

In nonmanufacturing, the largest increases between February and March were reported in trade (101,000) and in contract construction (77,000). Compared with March 1945, trade employment had increased 519,000 and construction 692,000.

TABLE 1.—Estimated Number of Production Workers and Indexes of Production-Worker Employment in Manufacturing Industries, by Major Industry Group¹

Industry group	Estimated number of production workers (thousands)				Production-worker indexes (1939=100)	
	Mar. 1946 ²	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Mar. 1945	Mar. 1946 ²	Feb. 1946
All manufacturing.....	10,407	9,983	10,655	13,601	127.0	121.9
Durable goods.....	4,796	4,417	5,194	8,039	132.8	122.3
Nondurable goods.....	5,611	5,566	5,461	5,562	122.5	121.5
Iron and steel and their products.....	1,201	862	1,313	1,733	121.1	86.9
Electrical machinery.....	352	346	476	726	135.7	133.7
Machinery, except electrical.....	835	818	941	1,206	158.0	154.7
Transportation equipment, except automobiles.....	456	472	523	2,061	287.0	297.3
Automobiles.....	405	396	411	700	100.7	98.3
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	285	291	333	426	124.4	126.8
Lumber and timber basic products.....	532	521	514	517	126.5	124.0
Furniture and finished lumber products.....	362	355	348	348	110.2	108.1
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	368	356	335	322	125.2	121.4
Textile-mill products and other fiber manufactures.....	1,168	1,157	1,127	1,095	102.1	101.2
Apparel and other finished textile products.....	1,009	993	956	945	127.8	125.8
Leather and leather products.....	355	348	338	317	102.2	100.4
Food.....	1,026	1,045	1,051	1,016	120.1	122.2
Tobacco manufactures.....	82	81	81	82	87.4	87.3
Paper and allied products.....	354	348	341	318	133.3	131.0
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....	372	367	359	322	113.5	112.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	494	491	489	698	171.3	170.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	146	142	142	134	137.6	133.7
Rubber products.....	220	214	209	209	182.0	177.1
Miscellaneous industries.....	385	380	368	426	157.5	155.4

¹ The estimates and indexes presented in this table have been adjusted to levels indicated by the final 1944 data made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency. These data are not comparable with data published in mimeographed releases dated prior to April 1946 or the May 1946 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Comparable data from January 1944 are available upon request.

² Preliminary.

Public Employment

The relatively small decline of 4,000 in Federal employment within continental United States between February 1 and March 1 tends to obscure the internal shifts among the various agencies. The War and Navy Departments made reductions in force totaling 33,000 during the month, while certain other agencies, mainly the Veterans Administration and the Post Office Department, hired a considerable number of additional workers.

The total number of Federal employees within continental United States (2,400,000) on March 1, 1946, was 549,000 lower than the number on March 1, 1945, and was 566,000 lower than the pre-VJ-day peak on July 1, 1945.

Employment outside continental United States dropped 25,000 during the month to a total of 491,000 or 129,000 less than on March 1, 1945.

An increase of 18 cents an hour (which became effective March 18) in the pay of Navy employees whose wage rates are set by wage boards offset the pay-roll decline shown by other agencies within continental United States. The decline outside continental United States, however, was large enough to bring total Federal pay rolls to \$2,800,000 below the February 1946 total, or to \$518,000,000 in March.

Source of data.—Data for the Federal executive service are reported through the Civil Service Commission, whereas data for the legislative and judicial service and Government corporations are reported to the

Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment on Federal force-account construction is included in the executive branch and also in construction employment (table 4).

TABLE 2.—*Employment and Pay Rolls for Regular Federal Services and for Government Corporations, in Selected Months*

Year and month	Total	Executive ¹			Legis- lative	Judicial	Govern- ment corporations ²
		All areas	Continental United States				
			Total	Washing- ton, D. C., area			
Employment ³							
March 1939.....	925,938	893,714	858,242	121,067	5,284	2,210	24,730
March 1940.....	993,157	958,607	908,715	128,094	5,883	2,379	26,288
March 1941.....	1,254,085	1,217,420	1,137,972	162,380	5,921	2,505	28,239
March 1942.....	1,875,464	1,835,545	1,675,104	233,696	6,343	2,601	30,975
March 1943.....	3,125,991	3,082,713	2,815,556	288,007	6,154	2,597	34,527
March 1944.....	3,257,765	3,212,740	2,827,782	263,701	6,152	2,672	36,201
March 1945.....	3,574,833	3,531,808	2,918,868	256,497	6,281	2,632	34,112
November 1945.....	3,300,038	3,256,349	2,480,671	232,577	6,373	2,942	34,374
December 1945.....	3,431,746	3,388,037	2,678,565	233,762	6,384	2,991	34,334
January 1946 ⁴	2,973,297	2,929,899	2,378,916	229,389	6,401	3,011	33,986
February 1946 ⁵	2,925,434	2,881,963	2,373,885	232,981	6,433	3,023	34,015
March 1946 ⁶	2,896,636	2,853,348	2,370,116	235,667	6,459	3,053	33,776
Pay rolls (in thousands) ⁶							
March 1943.....	\$649,695	\$642,382	(7)	\$59,030	\$1,417	\$716	\$5,180
March 1944.....	693,309	685,368	\$630,781	55,378	1,503	758	7,680
March 1945.....	712,581	704,713	647,009	54,856	1,625	780	5,463
November 1945 ⁴	571,666	563,626	509,257	50,625	1,757	912	5,371
December 1945 ⁴	701,686	695,089	648,746	73,960	1,822	1,135	5,457
January 1946 ⁵	528,375	520,016	476,675	49,648	1,766	967	5,626
February 1946 ⁵	520,790	512,553	470,350	50,015	1,769	940	5,528
March 1946 ⁴	518,009	509,763	470,821	50,650	1,774	946	5,526

¹ Includes employees on force-account construction who are also included under construction projects (table 4). Beginning July 1945, data include approximately 22,000 clerks at third-class post offices who previously were working on a contract basis. Data exclude substitute rural mail carriers.

² Data are for employees of the Panama Railroad Company, the Federal Reserve banks, and banks of the Farm Credit Administration, who are paid out of operating revenues and not out of Federal appropriations. Data for other Government corporations are included under the executive service.

³ Figures are as of the first of the calendar month, except for the seasonal post-office workers included in the executive service in December 1945.

⁴ Revised.

⁵ Preliminary.

⁶ Data are for all pay periods ending within the calendar month. Figures for December 1945 include 3 pay periods covering 6 weeks for most of the per annum employees; other periods include 4 weeks for most of the per annum employees.

⁷ Data not available.

TABLE 3.—*Employment and Pay Rolls for the Executive Branch of the Federal Government in Selected Months*¹

Year and month	All agencies	War agencies ²			Other agencies ³		
		Total	Continental United States	Outside continental United States ⁴	Total	Continental United States	Outside continental United States ⁴
Employment ⁵							
March 1939-----	893,714	188,261	161,220	27,041	705,453	697,022	8,431
March 1940-----	958,607	240,933	202,204	38,729	717,674	706,511	11,163
March 1941-----	1,217,420	453,893	387,228	66,665	763,527	750,744	12,783
March 1942-----	1,835,545	997,369	850,874	146,495	838,176	824,230	13,946
March 1943-----	3,082,713	2,275,904	2,023,641	252,263	806,809	791,915	14,894
March 1944-----	3,212,740	2,393,506	2,024,355	369,151	819,234	803,427	15,807
March 1945-----	3,531,808	2,661,320	2,064,778	596,542	870,488	854,090	16,398
November 1945-----	3,256,349	2,290,537	1,538,319	752,218	965,812	942,352	23,460
December 1945-----	3,388,037	2,162,351	1,476,439	685,912	1,225,686	1,202,126	23,560
January 1946 ⁶ -----	2,929,899	1,945,206	1,416,285	528,921	984,693	962,631	22,062
February 1946 ⁷ -----	2,881,963	1,863,394	1,377,049	486,345	1,018,569	996,836	21,733
March 1946 ⁷ -----	2,853,348	1,805,446	1,343,592	461,854	1,047,902	1,026,524	21,378
Pay rolls (in thousands) ⁸							
March 1943-----	\$642,382	\$487,138	(⁹)	(⁹)	\$155,244	(⁹)	(⁹)
March 1944-----	685,368	520,720	\$469,316	\$51,404	164,648	\$161,465	\$3,183
March 1945-----	704,713	534,875	480,695	54,180	169,838	166,314	3,524
November 1945 ⁷ -----	563,626	364,473	314,929	49,544	199,153	194,328	4,825
December 1945 ⁷ -----	695,089	411,410	369,946	41,464	283,679	278,800	4,879
January 1946 ⁷ -----	520,015	321,591	282,749	38,842	198,424	193,925	4,499
February 1946 ⁷ -----	512,553	308,182	270,707	37,476	204,371	199,643	4,728
March 1946 ⁷ -----	509,763	298,961	264,363	34,598	210,802	206,458	4,344

¹ Includes employees on force-account construction who are also included under construction projects (table 4).

² Covers War and Navy Departments, Maritime Commission, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, The Panama Canal, and the emergency war agencies.

³ Beginning July 1945, data include approximately 22,000 clerks at third-class post offices who were previously working on a contract basis. Data exclude substitute rural mail carriers.

⁴ Includes Alaska and the Panama Canal Zone.

⁵ Figures are as of the first of the calendar month except for the seasonal post-office workers included in December 1945.

⁶ Revised.

⁷ Preliminary.

⁸ Data are for all pay periods ending within the calendar month. Figures for December 1945 include 3 pay periods covering 6 weeks for most of the per annum employees; other periods include 4 weeks for most of the per annum employees.

⁹ Data not available.

Construction

EMPLOYMENT

Continuing the upward trend which started a year ago, construction employment in the United States reached a total of 1,503,300 in March 1946—97,700 above February and almost double the March 1945 figure (758,000). The entire gain for the month represented a 7-percent increase in employment on non-Federal projects, Federal construction employment having decreased slightly from 77,000 in February to 75,400 in March. The 4,000 gain on publicly financed residential construction (mostly war housing relocated for veterans) was more than offset by the drop in employment on Federal non-residential building construction.

About 32 percent of all site workers on new construction were employed on housing during March 1946 as compared with only 12 percent in March 1945. It is expected that under the veterans' emergency housing program, half the new construction labor force will be working on residential building by September when the total number employed on all new work will probably reach almost 2 million.

In addition to the sharp rise in employment on home building, seasonal advances in farm building and in construction of public utilities accounted for much of the pronounced gain during March in construction employment as a whole.

TABLE 4.—*Estimated Employment and Pay Rolls on Construction in Continental United States, March 1946*

Type of project	Employment (in thousands)			Pay rolls (in thousands)		
	March 1946 ¹	February 1946	March 1945	March 1946 ¹	February 1946	March 1945
New construction, total ²	1,503.3	1,405.6	758.0	(³)	(³)	(³)
At the construction site	1,308.7	1,220.2	671.4	(³)	(³)	(³)
Federal projects ⁴	\$ 75.4	\$ 77.0	\$ 247.6	\$13,793	\$13,959	\$47,830
Airports	2.2	2.1	6.6	380	414	987
Buildings	34.4	37.4	196.2	6,245	6,569	37,671
Residential	6.0	2.0	11.1	1,030	442	2,571
Nonresidential ⁷	\$ 28.4	\$ 35.4	\$ 185.1	\$ 5,215	\$ 6,127	\$ 35,100
Electrification	2.6	2.4	.5	388	353	90
Reclamation	6.4	6.3	6.7	1,244	1,329	1,561
River, harbor, and flood control	15.9	16.4	14.8	3,037	3,121	2,904
Streets and highways	9.9	8.4	6.5	1,757	1,502	1,196
Water and sewer systems	1.3	1.5	3.7	253	269	599
Miscellaneous	2.7	2.5	12.6	489	402	2,822
Non-Federal projects	1,233.3	1,143.2	423.8	(³)	(³)	(³)
Buildings	927.6	893.3	235.0	1216,131	1196,526	55,930
Residential	413.6	382.4	68.1	(³)	(³)	(³)
Nonresidential	514.0	510.9	166.9	(³)	(³)	(³)
Farm dwellings and service buildings	78.7	54.4	59.9	(³)	(³)	(³)
Public utilities	135.4	113.1	100.7	(³)	(³)	(³)
Streets and highways	32.0	27.0	14.4	(³)	(³)	(³)
State	12.0	8.2	5.3	(³)	(³)	(³)
County and municipal	20.0	18.8	9.1	(³)	(³)	(³)
Miscellaneous	59.6	55.4	13.8	(³)	(³)	(³)
Other ⁸	194.6	185.4	86.6	(³)	(³)	(³)
Maintenance of State roads ⁹	95.0	92.0	79.1	(³)	(³)	(³)

¹ Preliminary.

² Data for all construction workers (contract and force account) engaged on new construction, additions, alterations, and on repair work of the type usually covered by building permits. (Force-account employees are workers hired directly by the owner and utilized as a separate work force to perform construction work of the type usually chargeable to capital account.) The construction figure included in the Bureau's non-agricultural employment series covers only employees of construction contractors and on Federal force account and excludes force-account workers of State and local governments, public utilities, and private firms.

³ Data not available.

⁴ Includes the following force-account employees, hired directly by the Federal Government, and their pay rolls: March 1946, 16,596, \$3,025,004; Feb. 1946, 16,419, \$3,164,980; March 1945, 18,768, \$3,678,136. These employees are also included under the Federal executive service (tables 2 and 3); all other workers were employed by contractors and subcontractors.

⁵ Includes employment on construction of plants to produce atomic bombs, which, for security reasons, was not previously included in these estimates but was shown in the classification "other," as follows: March 1946, 2,600; February 1946, 4,600; and March 1945, 30,000.

⁶ Excludes pay-roll data for construction of plants to produce atomic bombs.

⁷ Employees and pay rolls for Defense Plant Corporation projects are included, but those for projects financed from RFC loans are excluded. The latter are considered non-Federal projects.

⁸ Includes central office force of construction contractors, shop employees of special trades contractors, such as bench sheet-metal workers, etc.

⁹ Data for other types of maintenance not available.

EARNINGS AND HOURS

There was no change in the average hours worked per week on private building-construction projects in February. A slight increase in the hours worked by employees of general contractors was offset by a similar decline in hours worked in the special building trades.

The increase of 4 cents over January in average hourly earnings and of \$1.50 in weekly earnings reflects a change during the month in geographic distribution of the firms reporting, rather than overtime pay.

Data are shown this month, for the first time, for types of projects other than building construction, including highway and street and heavy construction work. Average weekly hours on these types were higher than for building, leading to somewhat higher weekly earnings even though average hourly earnings were lower than on building construction.

Reports on number of employees, weekly pay rolls, and weekly hours worked are received monthly from contractors employing about 350,000 workers. Data as published are summaries of all reports received during the months shown and do not necessarily represent reports from identical firms.

TABLE 5.—Average Hours and Earnings on Private Construction Projects, for Selected Types of Work, February 1945, January and February 1946¹

Type of work	Average hours per week			Average weekly earnings ²			Average hourly earnings		
	February 1946	January 1946 ³	February 1945	February 1946	January 1946 ³	February 1945	February 1946	January 1946 ³	February 1945
All types of work.....	38.1	(4)	(4)	\$54.52	(4)	(4)	\$1.432	(4)	(4)
Building construction.....	37.7	37.7	39.1	54.43	\$52.89	\$52.89	1.443	\$1.402	\$1.352
General contractors ⁴	37.4	36.8	38.9	52.69	49.83	50.26	1.409	1.355	1.292
Special building trades ⁵	38.1	38.5	39.2	56.13	55.57	54.60	1.475	1.444	1.392
Plumbing and heating.....	40.0	40.4	41.1	56.92	55.93	55.58	1.423	1.384	1.351
Painting and decorating.....	37.1	37.9	38.1	55.16	56.43	52.58	1.487	1.491	1.380
Electrical work.....	40.9	40.8	40.8	63.19	65.12	63.49	1.544	1.595	1.556
Masonry.....	33.8	32.9	32.6	48.91	47.70	44.19	1.448	1.450	1.354
Plastering and lathing.....	35.1	35.0	33.9	55.20	55.31	49.96	1.575	1.579	1.475
Carpentry.....	38.7	38.1	38.5	53.37	53.95	50.53	1.379	1.418	1.312
Roofing and sheet metal.....	33.9	36.4	36.7	46.82	49.57	48.92	1.381	1.361	1.333
Excavation and foundation.....	35.2	35.6	37.2	47.94	47.06	45.76	1.364	1.322	1.230
Non-building construction.....	40.0	(4)	(4)	55.03	(4)	(4)	1.376	(4)	(4)
Highway and streets.....	39.5	(4)	(4)	52.57	(4)	(4)	1.332	(4)	(4)
Heavy construction.....	40.4	(4)	(4)	56.65	(4)	(4)	1.403	(4)	(4)
Other.....	40.0	(4)	(4)	54.98	(4)	(4)	1.375	(4)	(4)

¹ Includes all firms reporting during the month shown (representing approximately 350,000 employees).

² Revised.

³ Hourly earnings when multiplied by the weekly hours of work do not equal weekly earnings exactly because of rounding.

⁴ Not available prior to February 1946.

⁵ Formerly listed as "General building."

⁶ Includes types not shown separately.

Detailed Reports for Industrial and Business Employment, February 1946

Nonagricultural Employment

ESTIMATES of employment in nonagricultural establishments are shown in table 1. The estimates are based on reports of employers to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, on unemployment-compensation data made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency, and on information supplied by other Government agencies, such as the Interstate Commerce Commission, Civil Service Commission, Bureau of the Census, and the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance. The estimates include all wage and salaried workers in nonagricultural establishments but exclude military personnel, proprietors, self-employed persons, and domestic servants.

Estimates of employees in nonagricultural establishments, by States, are published each month in a detailed report on employment and pay rolls.

TABLE 1.—*Estimated Number of Employees in Nonagricultural Establishments, by Industry Division*

Industry division	Estimated number of employees (in thousands)				
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945	Average, 1945
Total estimated employment ¹	35, 241	35, 818	36, 314	37, 968	36, 981
Manufacturing ²	11, 297	12, 038	11, 910	15, 517	13, 897
Mining.....	808	810	802	798	779
Contract construction and Federal force-account construction.....	1, 251	1, 132	1, 042	599	834
Transportation and public utilities.....	3, 905	3, 896	3, 896	3, 771	3, 822
Trade.....	7, 502	7, 485	7, 959	6, 985	7, 173
Finance, service, and miscellaneous.....	5, 031	4, 984	4, 936	4, 360	4, 589
Federal, State, and local government, excluding Federal force-account construction.....	5, 447	5, 473	5, 769	5, 938	5, 887

¹ Estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who are employed during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed persons, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded.

² Estimates for manufacturing have been adjusted to levels indicated by final 1942 data made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency. Since the estimated number of production workers in manufacturing industries have been further adjusted to final 1944 data, subsequent to December 1942, the two sets of estimates are not comparable.

Industrial and Business Employment

Monthly reports on employment and pay rolls are available for 154 manufacturing industries and for 27 nonmanufacturing industries, including water transportation and class I steam railroads. The reports for the first 2 of these groups—manufacturing and nonmanufacturing—are based on sample surveys by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The figures on water transportation are based on estimates prepared by the Maritime Commission, and those on class I steam railroads are compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The employment, pay roll, hours, and earnings figures for manufacturing, mining,

laundries, and cleaning and dyeing cover production workers only; but the figures for public utilities, brokerage, insurance, and hotels relate to all employees except corporation officers and executives, while for trade they relate to all employees except corporation officers, executives, and other employees whose duties are mainly supervisory. For crude-petroleum production they cover production workers and clerical field force. The coverage of the reporting sample for the various nonmanufacturing industries ranges from about 25 percent for wholesale and retail trade, cleaning and dyeing, and insurance to about 80 percent for public utilities and 90 percent for mining.

The general manufacturing indexes are computed from reports supplied by representative establishments in the 154 manufacturing industries surveyed. These reports cover more than 65 percent of the total production workers in all manufacturing industries of the country and about 80 percent of the production workers in the 154 industries covered.

Data for both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries are based on reports of the number of employees and the amount of pay rolls for the period ending nearest the 15th of the month.

INDEXES OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS

Employment and pay-roll indexes, for both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries for December 1945, and January and February 1946, and for February 1945, are presented in tables 3 and 5.

The figures relating to all manufacturing industries combined, to the durable- and nondurable-goods divisions, and to the major industry groups, have been adjusted to levels indicated by final data for 1944 made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency. The Bureau of Employment Security data referred to are (a) employment totals reported by employers under State unemployment-compensation programs and (b) estimates of the number of employees not reported under the programs of some of these States, which do not cover small establishments. The latter estimates were obtained from tabulations prepared by the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, which obtains reports from all employers, regardless of size of establishment.

Not all industries in each major industry group are represented in the tables since minor industries are not canvassed by the Bureau. Furthermore, no attempt has been made to allocate among the separate industries the adjustments to unemployment-compensation data. Hence, the estimates for individual industries within a group do not in general add to the total for that group.

TABLE 2.—Estimated Number of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹

Industry	Estimated number of production workers (in thousands)			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
All manufacturing ¹	9,983	10,655	10,519	13,725
Durable goods ¹	4,417	5,194	5,097	8,142
Nondurable goods ¹	5,566	5,461	5,422	5,583
<i>Durable goods</i>				
Iron and steel and their products ¹	862	1,313	1,294	1,741
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	183.9	447.8	446.3	478.4
Gray-iron and semisteel castings.....	71.2	74.3	72.3	75.3
Malleable-iron castings.....	17.6	24.5	23.0	26.0
Steel castings.....	25.6	52.6	52.4	72.4
Cast-iron pipe and fittings.....	14.6	15.4	15.1	15.7
Tin cans and other tinware.....	28.9	38.0	37.1	41.1
Wire drawn from purchased rods.....	15.1	29.4	28.9	32.6
Wirework.....	28.3	33.9	33.0	35.1
Cutlery and edge tools.....	21.6	23.1	23.1	24.2
Tools (except edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws).....	21.5	24.2	23.2	27.4
Hardware.....	38.0	38.1	36.8	46.7
Plumbers' supplies.....	22.0	21.6	20.0	22.7
Stoves, oil burners, and heating equipment not elsewhere classified.....	44.0	51.6	51.3	64.0
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings.....	34.1	44.0	43.9	55.6
Stamped and enameled ware and galvanizing.....	57.8	68.6	67.4	87.9
Fabricated structural and ornamental metalwork.....	32.0	44.7	44.0	73.2
Metal doors, sash, frames, molding, and trim.....	6.8	7.9	7.5	10.9
Bolts, nuts, washers, and rivets.....	14.8	20.9	20.8	24.0
Forgings, iron and steel.....	22.9	25.6	25.1	35.7
Wrought pipe, welded and heavy riveted.....	7.1	14.5	14.5	23.6
Screw-machine products and wood screws.....	25.9	26.8	26.1	43.0
Steel barrels, kegs, and drums.....	2.7	6.3	6.2	8.3
Firearms.....	10.9	10.9	10.3	32.3
Electrical machinery ¹	346	476	484	728
Electrical equipment.....	174.0	290.6	293.0	429.0
Radios and phonographs.....	64.9	65.5	62.8	117.5
Communication equipment.....	66.4	63.9	72.0	104.5
Machinery, except electrical ¹	818	941	914	1,218
Machinery and machine-shop products.....	295.0	333.7	324.7	454.2
Engines and turbines.....	24.5	39.0	38.6	67.7
Tractors.....	24.0	52.6	51.5	58.0
Agricultural machinery, excluding tractors.....	32.7	38.8	40.3	44.8
Machine tools.....	58.3	58.2	53.3	74.8
Machine-tool accessories.....	46.7	46.8	46.2	65.2
Textile machinery.....	26.6	29.0	27.9	26.4
Pumps and pumping equipment.....	47.5	52.8	52.5	72.6
Typewriters.....	15.3	14.7	14.3	13.0
Cash registers, adding and calculating machines.....	30.1	29.5	27.4	30.4
Washing machines, wringers and driers, domestic.....	9.9	9.9	9.6	12.6
Sewing machines, domestic and industrial.....	8.4	8.1	7.9	11.2
Refrigerators and refrigeration equipment.....	31.6	36.3	34.5	52.4
Transportation equipment, except automobiles ¹	472	523	536	2,134
Locomotives.....	4.1	23.3	23.3	34.1
Cars, electric- and street-railroad.....	41.9	47.2	45.7	59.2
Aircraft and parts, excluding aircraft engines.....	119.0	119.6	120.7	646.4
Aircraft engines.....	21.9	21.6	21.9	213.7
Shipbuilding and boatbuilding.....	229.6	251.5	264.7	973.0
Motoreycles, bicycles, and parts.....	8.6	8.5	8.1	9.6
Automobiles ¹	396	411	388	711
Nonferrous metals and their products ¹	291	333	326	421
Smelting and refining, primary, of nonferrous metals.....	33.2	35.3	35.2	39.7
Alloying and rolling and drawing of nonferrous metals, ex- cept aluminum.....	47.0	55.7	54.6	71.9
Clocks and watches.....	24.8	23.7	22.9	26.2
Jewelry (precious metals) and jewelers' findings.....	16.5	15.8	15.3	13.2
Silverware and plated ware.....	12.7	12.2	11.7	10.9
Lighting equipment.....	17.2	17.8	18.4	26.2
Aluminum manufactures.....	24.6	42.0	40.7	68.8
Sheet-metal work, not elsewhere classified.....	20.4	22.5	21.8	32.2
Lumber and timber basic products ¹	521	514	499	516
Sawmills and logging camps.....	202.2	201.7	197.2	218.9
Planing and plywood mills.....	65.9	64.8	62.9	70.6

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2.—Estimated Number of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries ¹—Continued

Industry	Estimated number of production workers (in thousands)			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
<i>Durable goods—Continued</i>				
Furniture and finished lumber products ¹	355	348	336	351
Mattresses and bedsprings.....	18.3	17.9	17.1	17.8
Furniture.....	151.9	149.7	143.4	154.1
Wooden boxes, other than cigar.....	24.1	23.9	23.6	27.2
Caskets and other morticians' goods.....	12.9	12.5	12.2	12.3
Wood preserving.....	11.7	11.5	11.4	10.2
Wood, turned and shaped.....	21.9	21.4	21.3	21.5
Stone, clay, and glass products ¹	35.6	33.5	32.0	32.2
Glass and glassware.....	99.7	87.3	78.8	87.6
Glass products made from purchased glass.....	11.8	10.9	10.8	11.0
Cement.....	22.2	21.6	21.2	16.1
Brick, tile, and terra cotta.....	52.9	52.0	49.7	41.2
Pottery and related products.....	42.9	41.6	40.7	39.3
Gypsum.....	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.0
Wallboard, plaster (except gypsum), and mineral wool.....	9.8	10.1	9.8	9.6
Lime.....	8.0	8.2	7.9	7.7
Marble, granite, slate, and other products.....	14.8	13.7	13.8	14.0
Abrasives.....	16.9	16.8	16.3	21.5
Asbestos products ²	14.5	14.3	14.9	20.0
<i>Nondurable goods</i>				
Textile-mill products and other fiber manufacturers ¹	1,157	1,127	1,113	1,102
Cotton manufactures, except smallwares.....	437.3	428.7	423.8	428.5
Cotton smallwares.....	13.9	13.5	13.4	13.3
Silk and rayon goods.....	89.2	87.5	87.1	88.8
Woolen and worsted manufacturers, except dyeing and finishing.....	153.9	149.1	147.5	146.0
Hosiery.....	109.8	106.3	104.3	99.6
Knitted cloth.....	11.1	10.7	10.7	10.2
Knitted outerwear and knitted gloves.....	29.6	28.7	28.7	28.7
Knitted underwear.....	34.5	33.6	33.7	34.3
Dyeing and finishing textiles, including woolen and worsted.....	62.5	60.5	59.2	59.0
Carpets and rugs, wool.....	21.6	20.1	19.6	20.1
Hats, fur-felt.....	10.6	10.3	10.1	9.3
Jute goods, except felts.....	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.2
Cordage and twine.....	14.2	14.7	14.6	15.0
Apparel and other finished textile products ¹	993	956	938	941
Men's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	186.5	180.6	177.4	202.3
Shirts, collars, and nightwear.....	51.7	50.5	50.7	49.4
Underwear and neckwear, men's.....	11.7	11.3	11.5	12.0
Work shirts.....	13.5	12.6	13.0	14.3
Women's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	213.7	207.1	203.9	213.6
Corsets and allied garments.....	15.7	15.0	14.9	14.6
Millinery.....	20.8	19.6	18.2	20.2
Handkerchiefs.....	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6
Curtains, draperies, and bedspreads.....	11.6	11.4	11.5	10.2
Housefurnishings, other than curtains, etc.....	10.5	9.7	9.1	11.4
Textile bags.....	14.4	14.7	14.7	14.4
Leather and leather products ¹	348	338	330	318
Leather.....	44.7	43.5	42.4	39.6
Boot and shoe cut stock and findings.....	17.4	17.1	16.8	16.0
Boots and shoes.....	187.0	182.1	177.8	172.6
Leather gloves and mittens.....	11.7	11.1	11.4	12.0
Trunks and suitcases.....	13.5	12.6	12.2	12.9
Food ¹	1,045	1,051	1,078	1,033
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	151.4	152.6	147.7	144.9
Butter.....	21.7	21.0	21.7	21.6
Condensed and evaporated milk.....	12.8	12.6	12.9	13.5
Ice cream.....	15.5	15.0	15.2	13.5
Flour.....	31.4	31.5	30.9	29.6
Feeds, prepared.....	23.5	23.8	23.3	21.5
Cereal preparations.....	10.7	10.1	10.0	9.3
Baking.....	253.2	254.1	253.2	257.2
Sugar refining, cane.....	12.5	12.9	12.9	15.3
Sugar, beet.....	4.5	7.0	18.0	4.2
Confectionery.....	51.4	52.8	55.2	58.3
Beverages, nonalcoholic.....	22.4	22.8	23.5	25.5

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2—Estimated Number of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹—Continued

Industry	Estimated number of production workers (in thousands)			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
<i>Nondurable goods—Continued</i>				
Food—Continued				
Malt liquors.....	55.5	54.8	53.4	50.1
Canning and preserving.....	89.1	92.1	107.4	101.2
Tobacco manufactures ¹	81	81	82	82
Cigarettes.....	31.9	32.5	33.0	35.2
Cigars.....	36.4	35.2	35.0	33.2
Tobacco (chewing and smoking) and snuff.....	7.8	8.0	8.5	8.7
Paper and allied products ¹	348	341	335	320
Paper and pulp.....	159.8	156.6	153.1	147.5
Paper goods, other.....	45.6	44.4	44.2	44.9
Envelopes.....	10.0	9.8	9.8	9.5
Paper bags.....	14.0	13.6	13.4	13.1
Paper boxes.....	83.1	82.6	81.6	77.9
Printing, publishing, and allied industries ¹	367	359	355	323
Newspapers and periodicals.....	124.9	122.3	121.9	108.8
Printing book and job.....	152.7	148.6	146.0	133.9
Lithographing.....	27.9	27.3	26.9	24.3
Bookbinding.....	29.8	29.1	28.7	28.0
Chemicals and allied products ¹	491	489	488	697
Paints, varnishes, and colors.....	33.8	33.0	32.3	29.5
Drugs, medicines, and insecticides.....	50.6	49.7	48.7	49.4
Perfumes and cosmetics.....	12.1	12.0	12.2	12.3
Soap.....	13.9	13.6	13.6	13.4
Rayon and allied products.....	59.7	59.4	57.7	54.7
Chemicals, not elsewhere classified.....	114.8	114.6	112.8	115.3
Explosives and safety fuses.....	16.1	17.3	21.5	97.9
Compressed and liquefied gases.....	5.3	5.6	5.5	6.0
Ammunition, small-arms.....	8.4	9.6	9.9	65.9
Fireworks.....	2.4	2.1	2.3	25.0
Cottonseed oil.....	15.4	17.7	19.4	18.5
Fertilizers ²	28.5	24.9	22.6	25.1
Products of petroleum and coal ¹	142	142	140	134
Petroleum refining.....	96.4	96.1	95.1	91.5
Coke and byproducts.....	22.6	23.8	23.1	22.1
Paving materials.....	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5
Roofing materials.....	10.8	10.4	10.1	9.5
Rubber products.....	214	209	203	210
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	101.4	98.8	96.2	96.4
Rubber boots and shoes.....	16.9	16.3	15.9	17.5
Rubber goods, other.....	66.7	65.7	64.4	72.5
Miscellaneous industries ¹	380	368	360	423
Instruments (professional and scientific) and fire-control equipment.....	22.3	22.1	22.4	59.6
Photographic apparatus.....	22.5	22.0	22.4	28.0
Optical instruments and ophthalmic goods.....	20.7	20.2	19.9	23.5
Pianos, organs, and parts.....	7.5	6.8	6.1	7.3
Games, toys, and dolls.....	18.7	17.6	17.5	16.3
Buttons.....	10.2	9.7	9.4	9.6
Fire extinguishers.....	2.3	2.3	2.4	4.7

¹ Estimates for the major industry groups have been adjusted to levels indicated by the final 1944 data made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency and should not be compared with the manufacturing employment estimates of production workers plus salaried employees appearing in table 1. Data for the major industry groups are not comparable with data published in mimeographed releases dated prior to April 1946 or the May 1946 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Comparable series from January 1944 are available upon request. Estimates for individual industries have been adjusted to levels indicated by the 1939 Census of Manufactures, but not to Federal Security Agency data. For this reason, together with the fact that this Bureau has not prepared estimates for certain industries, the sum of the individual industry estimates will not agree with the totals shown for the major industry groups.

² Revisions have been made as follows in the data for earlier months:

Asbestos products.—November 1945 production workers to 14.5.

Fertilizers.—October and November 1945 production workers to 20.7 and 21.1.

TABLE 3.—Indexes of Production-Worker Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing Industries¹

[1939 average=100]

Industry	Employment indexes				Pay-roll indexes			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
All manufacturing ¹	121.9	130.1	128.4	167.5	210.6	229.1	226.2	344.8
Durable goods ¹	122.3	143.8	141.2	225.5	199.5	242.8	240.0	472.0
Nondurable goods ¹	121.5	119.2	118.4	121.9	221.5	215.7	212.7	220.4
<i>Durable goods</i>								
Iron and steel and their products ¹	86.9	132.4	130.5	175.6	133.1	216.5	220.5	332.1
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	47.3	115.3	114.9	123.1	57.7	171.4	181.2	223.6
Gray-iron and semisteel castings.....	121.9	127.2	123.7	128.8	228.8	247.0	240.5	267.5
Malleable-iron castings.....	97.8	135.7	127.3	144.0	185.1	263.5	259.3	305.8
Steel castings.....	85.1	174.9	174.2	240.5	143.9	263.6	296.8	453.5
Cast-iron pipe and fittings.....	88.4	93.3	91.2	94.9	172.7	184.8	176.4	196.8
Tin cans and other tinware.....	91.0	119.7	116.8	129.3	149.2	208.0	202.3	227.4
Wire drawn from purchased rods.....	68.9	134.0	131.7	148.6	99.2	199.2	199.7	255.7
Wirework.....	93.3	111.6	108.7	115.5	162.6	206.2	200.0	236.9
Cutlery and edge tools.....	140.2	150.1	149.7	157.0	288.2	305.3	301.7	333.3
Tools (except edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws).....	140.6	158.3	151.5	179.1	262.3	290.3	272.5	352.0
Hardware.....	106.6	106.8	103.3	131.0	195.1	205.1	195.5	277.7
Plumbers' supplies.....	89.4	87.8	81.1	92.1	148.5	146.8	136.6	176.6
Stoves, oil burners, and heating equipment, not elsewhere classified.....	95.4	111.9	111.2	138.8	150.4	197.2	197.7	273.9
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings.....	112.5	145.1	145.0	183.5	191.8	251.9	253.9	355.3
Stamped and enameled ware and galvanizing.....	104.1	123.4	121.3	158.2	188.7	225.0	222.4	338.1
Fabricated structural and ornamental metal-work ²	90.2	125.9	123.8	206.1	136.9	196.3	196.0	396.0
Metal doors, sash, frames, molding, and trim.....	88.4	101.6	96.8	140.9	144.7	168.0	176.1	277.6
Bolts, nuts, washers, and rivets.....	103.4	145.8	145.2	167.5	179.9	248.4	266.4	335.3
Forgings, iron and steel.....	149.3	166.4	163.5	232.1	242.1	294.4	285.6	484.4
Wrought pipe, welded and heavy riveted ²	84.6	172.8	173.3	281.6	133.9	279.0	280.1	566.5
Screw-machine products and wood screws.....	153.0	158.4	154.0	253.8	268.9	290.1	284.4	514.6
Steel barrels, kegs, and drums.....	44.5	103.4	101.9	137.2	84.8	191.5	183.1	274.8
Firearms.....	217.9	217.0	206.8	645.2	399.9	398.1	380.8	1457.7
Electrical machinery ¹	133.7	183.7	186.9	281.0	210.4	302.6	308.5	528.3
Electrical equipment.....	96.3	160.8	162.1	237.3	144.4	258.9	261.6	451.9
Radios and phonographs.....	149.1	150.6	144.4	270.0	271.8	271.9	258.1	535.1
Communication equipment.....	206.7	199.0	224.1	325.4	334.6	327.4	369.5	555.5
Machinery, except electrical ¹	154.7	178.2	172.9	230.6	252.3	295.8	288.7	443.9
Machinery and machine-shop products.....	145.8	164.9	160.5	224.5	239.4	272.8	265.4	423.7
Engines and turbines.....	131.3	209.0	207.2	362.9	230.5	371.4	364.1	791.8
Tractors.....	76.7	168.1	164.6	185.3	97.0	241.9	235.3	292.0
Agricultural machinery, excluding tractors.....	117.5	139.6	145.0	161.0	183.6	230.9	249.4	328.3
Machine tools.....	159.2	158.8	145.6	204.3	257.4	262.9	244.5	381.9
Machine-tool accessories.....	185.7	186.1	183.5	259.1	276.7	284.1	279.2	465.8
Textile machinery.....	121.5	132.6	127.5	120.6	222.7	247.5	241.2	233.6
Pumps and pumping equipment.....	195.9	217.9	216.8	299.7	345.8	391.4	406.3	645.9
Typewriters.....	94.5	90.7	88.1	79.9	174.4	166.2	163.9	164.5
Cash registers, adding and calculating machines.....	153.0	149.9	139.3	154.5	253.9	262.0	239.2	301.2
Washing machines, wringers and driers, domestic.....	132.1	133.1	128.3	168.3	201.5	213.1	207.1	314.5
Sewing machines, domestic and industrial.....	106.7	102.8	100.3	142.5	195.8	185.3	180.6	305.6
Refrigerators and refrigeration equipment.....	89.8	103.3	98.2	149.0	126.7	151.2	143.5	276.6
Transportation equipment, except automobiles ¹	297.3	329.5	338.0	1344.6	493.2	563.7	577.2	2881.5
Locomotives.....	62.8	360.8	360.3	526.6	120.7	735.5	772.9	1218.0
Cars, electric- and steam-railroad.....	171.0	192.3	186.2	241.4	290.2	329.7	314.8	504.2
Aircraft and parts, excluding aircraft engines.....	299.9	301.3	304.1	1629.1	516.8	515.7	520.4	3234.6
Aircraft engines.....	246.5	242.5	246.2	2403.5	378.5	359.8	346.3	4368.4
Shipbuilding and boatbuilding.....	331.5	363.3	382.3	1405.2	531.3	610.7	641.2	3107.6
Motorcycles, bicycles, and parts.....	123.5	122.0	116.2	138.4	193.4	204.4	195.9	268.8
Automobiles ¹	98.3	102.2	96.4	176.8	134.3	152.2	135.5	333.8
Nonferrous metals and their products ¹	126.8	145.3	142.2	183.8	228.7	256.1	250.4	358.2
Smelting and refining, primary, of nonferrous metals.....	120.3	127.8	127.4	143.5	210.7	224.7	221.4	263.7
Alloying and rolling and drawing of nonferrous metals, except aluminum.....	121.1	143.5	140.6	185.2	221.6	256.7	247.0	361.7
Clocks and watches.....	122.1	116.7	112.9	129.0	236.3	219.8	211.6	283.7
Jewelry (precious metals) and jewelers' findings.....	114.0	109.5	106.0	91.4	211.5	203.1	202.2	159.6
Silverware and plated ware.....	104.5	100.7	96.8	89.9	208.5	198.2	192.3	165.6
Lighting equipment.....	84.1	87.1	90.0	128.2	133.0	137.7	136.3	233.6
Aluminum manufactures.....	104.3	178.5	172.6	292.3	172.8	269.1	266.7	542.2
Sheet-metal work, not elsewhere classified.....	108.8	119.8	116.2	171.5	197.1	214.1	215.0	335.2

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3.—Indexes of Production-Worker Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing Industries¹—Continued

[1939 average=100]

Industry	Employment indexes				Pay-roll indexes			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
<i>Durable goods—Continued</i>								
Lumber and timber basic products ¹	124.0	122.3	118.6	122.7	218.7	207.7	199.4	225.1
Sawmills and logging camps.....	70.2	70.0	68.5	76.0	123.0	118.2	114.1	140.4
Planing and plywood mills.....	90.8	89.2	86.6	97.2	157.8	148.9	144.8	170.6
Furniture and finished lumber products ¹	108.1	106.0	102.6	107.0	200.4	192.9	188.1	202.8
Mattresses and bedsprings.....	99.9	97.7	93.4	97.2	173.6	173.7	161.7	176.1
Furniture.....	95.4	94.0	90.1	96.8	176.7	169.3	164.3	184.0
Wooden boxes, other than cigar.....	95.2	94.2	93.2	107.2	190.1	185.4	188.8	211.3
Caskets and other morticians' goods.....	103.7	100.6	97.8	98.5	179.7	169.8	164.7	179.1
Wood preserving.....	103.8	102.7	101.4	90.4	210.8	203.9	211.0	188.2
Wood, turned and shaped.....	99.4	97.3	96.6	97.9	183.0	180.2	178.2	180.0
Stone, clay, and glass products ¹	121.4	114.3	109.1	109.6	203.0	184.9	181.7	186.8
Glass and glassware.....	142.8	125.0	112.9	125.5	235.7	192.1	182.1	202.0
Glass products made from purchased glass.....	117.8	108.6	108.0	109.6	205.2	178.9	180.8	188.4
Cement.....	93.4	90.8	89.0	67.6	138.3	132.0	136.1	106.0
Brick, tile, and terra cotta.....	93.2	91.5	87.5	72.5	157.8	154.5	147.5	119.4
Pottery and related products.....	129.6	125.8	123.0	118.7	209.5	195.5	195.3	186.7
Gypsum.....	100.1	95.8	93.8	81.8	165.2	160.5	158.4	141.2
Wallboard, plaster (except gypsum), and mineral wool.....	121.3	124.1	121.1	117.9	227.3	232.0	228.3	222.1
Lime.....	84.8	86.2	83.7	81.1	167.7	169.8	171.8	155.7
Marble, granite, slate, and other products.....	79.8	74.0	74.5	75.4	121.5	109.6	113.6	115.3
Abrasives.....	218.9	217.6	211.2	277.8	301.5	325.3	337.8	486.6
Asbestos products ¹	91.1	89.9	93.6	125.6	181.5	177.8	181.3	263.9
<i>Nondurable goods</i>								
Textile-mill products and other fiber manufactures ¹	101.2	98.6	97.3	96.4	203.7	190.7	188.0	177.5
Cotton manufactures, except smallwares.....	110.4	108.3	107.0	108.2	230.0	217.0	216.2	207.3
Cotton smallwares.....	104.6	101.6	100.3	100.1	200.0	195.6	191.5	192.1
Silk and rayon goods.....	74.4	73.0	72.7	74.1	158.3	149.4	148.8	140.0
Woolen and worsted manufactures, except dyeing and finishing.....	103.1	99.9	98.8	97.8	226.9	206.6	200.0	193.1
Hosiery.....	69.0	66.8	65.6	62.6	125.3	115.7	113.1	102.4
Knitted cloth.....	101.2	98.3	97.8	93.9	202.3	190.8	186.7	166.9
Knitted outerwear and knitted gloves.....	105.4	102.1	101.9	102.0	211.0	196.3	197.7	191.8
Knitted underwear.....	89.4	87.3	87.6	89.1	174.4	165.9	166.1	167.8
Dyeing and finishing textiles, including woolen and worsted.....	93.4	90.5	88.6	88.3	177.8	167.7	163.9	151.3
Carpets and rugs, wool.....	84.5	78.7	76.6	78.7	146.4	135.1	132.5	138.3
Hats, fur-felt.....	73.2	70.7	69.7	64.0	153.4	151.9	147.4	126.8
Jute goods, except felts.....	105.6	105.0	103.7	90.0	211.8	205.0	206.2	178.5
Cordage and twine.....	117.0	121.4	120.5	123.8	208.1	229.2	228.4	235.2
Apparel and other finished textile products ¹	125.8	121.0	118.9	119.2	240.2	228.0	215.0	227.5
Men's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	85.3	82.6	81.1	92.5	158.1	148.0	140.7	170.7
Shirts, collars and nightwear.....	73.4	71.7	72.0	70.2	147.7	135.9	133.5	131.5
Underwear and neckwear, men's.....	72.2	70.1	71.2	74.2	159.8	147.5	154.4	154.5
Work shirts.....	100.5	93.9	96.5	106.3	198.5	182.2	172.7	208.1
Women's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	78.7	76.3	75.1	78.6	53.3	149.4	140.9	154.3
Corsets and allied garments.....	83.6	79.9	79.4	77.5	153.9	147.5	140.4	137.2
Millinery.....	85.5	80.7	74.8	83.1	152.7	147.1	118.6	155.6
Handkerchiefs.....	51.2	47.1	49.1	53.5	105.4	87.6	92.4	101.1
Curtains, draperies, and bedspreads.....	68.7	67.4	68.1	60.3	128.9	128.6	132.8	120.2
Housefurnishing, other than curtains, etc.....	98.5	91.0	85.5	107.7	173.5	166.0	150.1	209.3
Textile bags.....	120.3	122.5	122.3	120.1	206.4	204.2	206.4	208.3
Leather and leather products ¹	100.4	97.4	95.2	91.6	194.5	185.2	179.2	168.6
Leather.....	94.5	92.0	89.7	83.8	165.3	163.2	161.6	149.7
Boot and shoe cut stock and findings.....	92.6	90.6	89.0	84.8	165.0	160.8	154.6	145.1
Boots and shoes.....	85.8	83.5	81.6	79.2	174.1	164.0	157.1	149.9
Leather gloves and mittens.....	116.9	111.6	113.9	120.1	210.1	201.7	202.1	208.1
Trunks and suitcases.....	162.7	150.8	146.4	155.4	279.5	261.7	263.7	257.8
Food ¹	122.2	123.0	126.2	120.8	211.5	215.0	220.4	195.9
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	125.6	126.7	122.6	120.3	200.0	217.9	214.9	188.1
Butter.....	120.7	117.2	121.1	120.1	200.9	195.1	197.6	190.1
Condensed and evaporated milk.....	132.3	130.2	132.8	139.1	225.8	219.3	215.9	227.8
Ice cream.....	98.5	95.3	96.7	86.1	152.3	146.2	148.8	125.0
Flour.....	126.8	127.3	124.9	119.4	242.4	228.8	221.3	204.3
Feeds, prepared.....	152.6	154.7	151.3	139.8	272.7	276.4	261.6	241.6
Cereal preparations.....	143.4	135.8	133.8	124.6	239.7	229.6	230.3	227.3
Baking.....	109.7	110.2	109.8	111.5	181.2	180.1	181.2	168.6

See footnotes at end of table.

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TABLE 3.—*Indexes of Production-Worker Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing Industries*¹—Continued

[1939 average=100]

Industry	Employment indexes			Pay-roll indexes				
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
Nondurable goods—Continued								
Food—Continued								
Sugar refining, cane	88.6	90.8	91.4	107.8	129.1	140.4	142.9	175.6
Sugar, beet	43.6	67.4	173.3	40.2	70.6	109.9	279.7	60.4
Confectionery	103.4	106.2	110.9	117.1	183.2	191.1	201.6	198.6
Beverages, nonalcoholic	105.5	107.4	110.7	119.8	144.9	146.3	150.4	157.0
Malt liquors	153.9	151.9	148.0	138.7	237.8	228.1	227.1	200.6
Canning and preserving	66.3	68.5	79.8	75.2	136.0	143.6	167.3	149.0
Tobacco manufactures¹								
Cigarettes	87.3	87.0	87.8	88.2	165.2	166.7	164.1	165.6
Cigars	116.1	118.3	120.4	128.3	194.3	201.4	184.8	207.6
Tobacco (chewing and smoking) and snuff	71.5	69.2	68.8	65.3	148.9	145.7	148.8	135.4
	84.6	87.7	92.5	95.0	133.4	137.4	155.8	157.3
Paper and allied products¹								
Paper and pulp	131.0	128.6	126.3	120.5	226.2	221.7	219.0	201.7
Paper goods, other	116.3	113.9	111.4	107.3	203.6	198.4	196.6	182.8
Envelopes	121.2	118.0	117.6	119.3	206.6	201.8	198.1	198.0
Paper bags	115.1	113.2	112.3	109.3	185.4	185.5	178.8	172.6
Paper boxes	126.3	122.6	121.2	118.0	224.8	221.6	218.3	205.8
	120.1	119.5	118.0	112.6	204.0	204.2	203.1	183.7
Printing, publishing, and allied industries¹								
Newspapers and periodicals	112.1	109.4	108.1	98.5	170.6	165.7	163.2	138.2
Printing, book and job	105.3	103.1	102.7	91.7	148.9	143.5	141.9	118.3
Lithographing	120.9	117.6	115.5	106.0	193.9	188.8	184.7	156.5
Bookbinding	107.3	105.2	103.4	93.6	161.8	163.4	161.6	134.1
	115.7	113.1	111.2	108.5	212.9	202.8	206.4	185.3
Chemicals and allied products¹								
Paints, varnishes, and colors	170.3	169.7	169.2	241.9	286.3	285.2	283.4	426.2
Drugs, medicines, and insecticides ²	120.1	117.4	114.8	105.0	185.2	180.1	178.1	170.1
Perfumes and cosmetics	184.8	181.5	177.8	180.1	295.7	281.4	276.2	277.3
Soap	116.8	115.4	118.1	118.8	184.9	174.9	183.0	170.2
Rayon and allied products	102.2	100.3	100.1	98.4	167.2	169.1	168.9	169.7
Chemicals, not elsewhere classified	123.6	123.0	119.6	113.4	194.9	197.0	193.8	180.2
Explosives and safety fuses	165.0	164.7	162.2	165.7	275.9	276.8	267.0	295.3
Compressed and liquefied gases	222.3	238.7	296.6	1349.1	348.1	365.1	469.7	2019.9
Ammunition, small-arms	132.7	141.0	140.0	151.3	208.6	233.5	225.6	273.2
Fireworks ³	197.5	225.8	233.2	1544.3	384.0	428.2	436.5	3070.0
Cottonseed oil	203.3	183.4	198.8	2156.6	509.9	474.3	496.2	6093.5
Fertilizers ²	101.4	116.8	128.0	121.5	215.3	252.8	279.6	256.7
	151.7	132.5	120.4	133.6	335.9	282.7	257.9	301.9
Products of petroleum and coal¹								
Petroleum refining	133.7	134.0	132.3	126.4	224.7	220.9	222.2	223.8
Coke and byproducts ³	132.3	131.9	130.6	125.6	217.4	210.6	212.6	218.2
Paving materials	104.0	109.7	106.5	102.0	179.3	189.3	190.0	185.8
Roofing materials	59.2	57.6	64.5	60.5	113.6	108.8	125.3	118.6
	134.4	128.8	125.7	118.2	241.0	237.1	228.9	216.2
Rubber products¹								
Rubber tires and inner tubes	177.1	172.7	168.2	173.2	292.1	290.1	275.5	339.5
Rubber boots and shoes	187.3	182.4	177.8	178.0	271.9	272.6	256.7	339.8
Rubber goods, other	113.9	109.7	107.1	118.3	211.5	203.6	194.5	224.2
	128.8	126.9	124.4	140.0	233.8	231.8	225.1	265.5
Miscellaneous industries¹								
Instruments (professional and scientific) and fire-control equipment	155.4	150.4	147.3	173.1	278.8	271.0	266.7	344.5
Photographic apparatus	201.3	200.2	202.8	539.2	321.7	330.4	332.1	1063.0
Optical instruments and ophthalmic goods	130.1	127.1	129.9	162.1	204.5	198.7	204.3	276.1
Pianos, organs, and parts	178.0	173.7	171.1	202.6	300.8	295.9	290.6	350.5
Games, toys, and dolls	98.5	88.9	80.2	95.8	159.8	148.5	138.3	182.4
Buttons	100.4	94.1	94.0	87.4	190.2	179.2	172.6	185.6
Fire extinguishers	93.1	88.0	85.7	87.2	186.0	178.2	173.2	181.1
	227.2	231.3	238.9	468.1	466.9	458.0	491.5	1061.1

¹ Indexes for the major industry groups have been adjusted to levels indicated by the final 1944 data made available by the Bureau of Employment Security of the Federal Security Agency. Indexes for the major industry groups are not comparable with those published in mimeographed releases dated prior to April 1946 or the May 1946 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Comparable series from January 1944 are available upon request.

² Revisions have been made as follows in the indexes for earlier months:

Fabricated structural and ornamental metalwork.—September 1945 pay-roll index to 180.8.

Wrought pipe, welded and heavy riveted.—August through November 1945 pay-roll indexes to 544.8, 237.3, 253.0, and 260.6.

Asbestos products.—November 1945 employment index to 91.1; pay-roll index to 175.9.

Drugs, medicines, and insecticides.—October 1945 pay-roll index to 266.1.

Fireworks.—November 1945 pay-roll index to 666.9.

Fertilizers.—October and November 1945 employment indexes to 110.3 and 112.4.

Coke and byproducts.—November 1945 pay-roll index to 181.0.

TABLE 4.—Estimated Number of Employees in Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries

Industry	Estimated number of employees (in thousands)			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
Mining: ¹				
Anthracite.....	67.2	65.7	65.4	65.6
Bituminous coal.....	341	338	333	337
Metal.....	63.3	67.4	66.3	66.9
Iron.....	21.6	23.0	23.7	23.4
Copper.....	18.0	20.5	19.7	22.2
Lead and zinc.....	14.6	14.9	14.2	14.9
Gold and silver.....	7.1	6.7	6.5	5.6
Miscellaneous.....	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.8
Telephone.....	488	465	454	403
Telegraph ²	(3)	(3)	47.6	44.9
Electric light and power.....	231	227	222	201
Street railways and busses.....	243	240	238	229
Hotels (year-round).....	383	378	379	353
Power laundries.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Cleaning and dyeing.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Class I steam railroads ³	1,365	1,393	1,398	1,413
Water transportation ⁴	166	165	166	148

¹ Data are for production workers only.² Excludes messengers, and approximately 6,000 employees of general and divisional headquarters, and of cable companies.³ Not available.⁴ The change in definition from "wage earner" to "production worker" in the power laundries and cleaning and dyeing industries results in the omission of driver-salesmen. This causes a significant difference in the data. New series are being prepared.⁵ Source: Interstate Commerce Commission.⁶ Based on estimates prepared by the U. S. Maritime Commission covering employment on active deep-sea American-flag steam and motor merchant vessels of 1,000 gross tons and over. Excludes vessels under bareboat charter to or owned by the Army or Navy.

TABLE 5.—Indexes of Employment and Pay Rolls in Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries

[1939 average=100]

Industry	Employment indexes				Pay-roll indexes			
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1945
Mining:								
Anthracite.....	81.1	79.3	79.0	79.2	178.3	149.3	167.1	150.2
Bituminous coal ¹	92.0	91.2	89.8	90.8	222.8	209.9	222.0	212.6
Metal.....	71.8	76.4	75.2	78.1	95.9	116.6	117.6	129.7
Iron.....	107.5	114.8	117.6	116.6	81.2	163.6	178.2	202.4
Copper.....	75.7	85.9	82.5	93.1	123.9	137.1	135.4	155.3
Lead and zinc.....	94.1	95.6	91.5	95.7	183.0	180.4	173.5	182.4
Gold and silver.....	28.6	27.2	26.2	22.7	38.5	35.8	34.4	29.9
Miscellaneous.....	49.2	56.9	55.0	69.7	75.8	83.7	82.8	118.0
Quarrying and nonmetallic.....	84.3	83.3	83.8	75.4	157.2	150.9	155.0	137.0
Crude petroleum production ²	91.0	90.0	88.4	82.4	142.0	139.0	135.9	133.7
Public utilities:								
Telephone.....	153.7	146.3	143.0	126.8	230.7	205.2	203.5	159.0
Telegraph.....	(3)	(3)	126.4	119.2	(3)	(3)	178.8	171.4
Electric light and power.....	94.7	92.9	90.7	82.2	138.3	133.7	129.8	117.3
Street railways and busses.....	125.6	123.7	122.7	118.4	187.8	181.4	184.0	178.0
Wholesale trade.....	105.5	104.7	104.1	95.7	165.0	161.2	159.2	141.3
Retail trade.....	104.2	104.0	116.0	97.2	157.4	154.7	167.6	130.3
Food.....	106.8	106.6	108.0	106.7	161.6	159.6	159.5	141.6
General merchandise.....	114.3	116.5	152.5	111.4	166.7	166.2	209.2	141.5
Apparel.....	104.8	106.0	129.1	102.8	162.3	163.0	194.0	140.0
Furniture and housefurnishings.....	72.9	70.9	75.1	61.7	112.5	107.1	114.3	88.2
Automotive.....	86.8	85.8	84.5	67.6	138.9	139.0	134.8	103.9
Lumber and building materials.....	103.3	101.8	102.0	88.6	161.6	158.6	156.7	130.4
Hotels (year-round) ⁴	118.7	117.3	117.6	109.6	199.8	196.4	196.1	167.9
Power laundries.....	109.0	109.3	107.8	105.4	177.0	178.7	174.3	159.4
Cleaning and dyeing.....	121.5	120.3	119.9	112.8	199.1	201.7	196.9	175.6
Class I steam railroads ³	138.3	141.0	141.5	143.1	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Water transportation ⁶	316.9	314.8	315.7	281.6	577.3	575.3	583.1	708.2

¹ October 1945 pay-roll index revised to 120.5.² Does not include well drilling or rig building.³ Not available.⁴ Cash payments only; additional value of board, room, and tips, not included.⁵ Source: Interstate Commerce Commission.⁶ Based on estimates prepared by the U. S. Maritime Commission covering employment on active deep-sea American-flag steam and motor merchant vessels of 1,000 gross tons and over. Excludes vessels under bareboat charter to or owned by the Army or Navy.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS

Average weekly earnings and hours and average hourly earnings for December 1945, and January and February 1946, where available, are given in table 6 for both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries. (For trend of earnings since 1939, see page 775 of this issue.)

The average weekly earnings for individual industries are computed by dividing the weekly pay rolls in the reporting establishments by the total number of full- and part-time employees reported. As not all reporting establishments supply information on man-hours, the average hours worked per week and average hourly earnings shown in this table are necessarily based on data furnished by a slightly smaller number of reporting firms. Because of variation in the size and composition of the reporting sample, the average hours per week, average hourly earnings, and average weekly earnings shown may not be strictly comparable from month to month. The sample, however, is believed to be sufficiently adequate in virtually all instances to indicate the general movement of earnings and hours over the period shown. The average weekly hours and hourly earnings for the manufacturing groups are weighted arithmetic means of the averages for the individual industries, estimated employment being used as weights for weekly hours and estimated aggregate hours as weights for hourly earnings. The average weekly earnings for these groups are computed by multiplying the average weekly hours by the corresponding average hourly earnings.

TABLE 6.—*Earnings and Hours in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries*

Industry	Average weekly earnings ¹			Average weekly hours ¹			Average hourly earnings ¹		
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945
							Cents	Cents	Cents
All manufacturing.....	\$40.60	\$41.14	\$41.21	40.5	41.0	41.5	100.2	100.3	99.4
Durable goods.....	42.60	43.67	44.08	40.1	40.8	41.4	106.4	106.9	106.6
Nondurable goods.....	39.02	38.75	38.52	40.9	41.2	41.5	95.3	94.1	92.7
<i>Durable goods</i>									
Iron and steel and their products.....	43.12	44.65	46.38	39.6	40.9	42.5	108.9	109.3	109.1
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	39.59	43.98	47.33	32.2	37.8	41.0	(*)	116.2	115.5
Gray-iron and semisteel castings.....	47.55	49.17	49.20	43.2	44.8	45.1	110.3	109.9	109.1
Malleable-iron castings.....	46.60	47.92	50.62	42.7	43.8	45.4	109.5	110.2	111.4
Steel castings ²	47.15	42.09	47.57	41.6	37.6	42.1	113.9	111.9	113.1
Cast-iron pipe and fittings.....	40.93	41.65	40.68	43.0	44.3	43.9	95.2	93.8	92.6
Tin cans and other tinware.....	38.84	41.38	41.22	41.0	44.4	44.5	94.7	93.7	93.1
Wirework.....	43.91	46.52	46.31	41.5	44.1	44.1	105.9	105.5	105.1
Cutlery and edge tools.....	43.84	43.42	43.24	44.2	44.5	44.5	99.1	97.4	97.1
Tools (except edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws).....	45.57	44.88	44.02	44.6	44.8	44.6	102.4	100.1	98.4
Hardware.....	41.21	43.25	42.49	42.8	44.7	44.6	96.1	96.8	95.3
Plumbers' supplies.....	43.57	43.85	44.07	42.2	42.5	43.0	103.1	103.2	102.5
Stoves, oil burners, and heating equipment, not elsewhere classified.....	41.81	43.97	44.36	40.8	42.7	43.4	102.6	103.1	102.3
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings.....	44.17	44.99	45.38	41.6	42.9	43.1	106.2	104.9	105.2
Stamped and enameled ware and galvanizing.....	41.78	42.03	42.38	40.9	41.8	42.0	102.2	100.5	101.0
Fabricated structural and ornamental metalwork.....	42.72	43.90	44.26	39.4	40.9	41.6	107.5	106.4	106.3

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 6.—Earnings and Hours in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries—Continued

MANUFACTURING—Continued

Industry	Average weekly earnings ¹			Average weekly hours ¹			Average hourly earnings ¹		
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945
<i>Durable goods—Continued</i>									
Iron and steel and their products—Continued									
Metal doors, sash, frames, molding, and trim	\$43.73	\$44.12	\$48.77	43.0	41.9	45.0	102.4	106.2	108.9
Bolts, nuts, washers, and rivets	44.10	43.01	46.24	42.5	41.4	44.3	103.9	104.6	104.2
Forgings, iron and steel	48.85	53.31	52.75	39.3	42.8	42.2	124.4	124.6	125.0
Screw-machine products and wood screws	45.22	47.09	47.52	41.7	43.3	44.2	107.5	107.9	106.8
Steel barrels, kegs, and drums	41.47	40.32	39.14	41.0	40.6	40.1	101.2	99.4	97.4
Firearms	48.44	48.55	48.92	43.5	43.8	43.8	111.3	110.8	111.6
Electrical machinery	41.49	43.47	43.58	40.4	41.3	41.5	102.8	105.3	105.0
Electrical equipment	41.01	43.97	44.05	40.1	41.2	41.4	102.2	106.7	106.3
Radios and phonographs	39.01	38.78	38.55	39.7	40.5	40.8	98.7	95.8	94.5
Communication equipment	45.41	46.13	45.91	41.8	42.3	42.3	108.1	108.5	108.8
Machinery, except electrical	47.71	48.36	48.63	41.7	42.5	42.9	114.3	113.7	113.4
Machinery and machine-shop products	47.91	47.81	47.98	42.3	42.5	42.8	112.9	112.3	112.0
Engines and turbines	46.66	49.61	48.89	39.2	41.5	41.0	119.0	119.6	119.3
Tractors	45.96	48.73	48.26	38.1	41.4	41.4	120.8	117.6	116.5
Agricultural machinery, excluding tractors	43.98	45.17	45.79	40.1	40.5	41.6	108.6	111.0	110.0
Machine tools	51.74	53.19	53.80	43.0	44.4	44.4	120.0	119.1	121.0
Machine-tool accessories	51.43	52.53	52.35	41.4	42.5	42.8	124.4	124.0	122.7
Textile machinery	47.87	48.28	49.06	45.7	46.3	47.1	104.8	104.4	104.1
Typewriters	44.42	44.12	44.79	43.6	43.4	44.6	102.0	101.8	100.4
Cash registers, adding and calculating machines	50.49	53.18	52.28	39.3	42.5	41.8	129.2	126.3	125.6
Washing machines, wringers and driers, domestic	40.08	42.28	42.61	40.4	42.7	43.5	99.5	98.9	97.9
Sewing machines, domestic and industrial	49.59	48.75	48.71	44.0	43.6	42.9	113.1	112.5	113.8
Refrigerators and refrigeration equipment ²	41.67	43.24	43.16	38.9	41.0	40.7	107.2	105.6	105.9
Transportation equipment, except automobiles	47.66	49.20	49.18	38.7	40.0	39.7	123.3	123.0	123.9
Locomotives	54.60	57.89	60.92	43.1	42.3	43.6	126.7	136.8	139.8
Cars, electric and steam-railroad	44.33	45.14	44.53	41.0	41.5	42.0	107.9	108.5	106.1
Aircraft and parts, excluding aircraft engines	48.73	48.40	48.40	40.1	40.9	40.8	121.5	118.4	118.7
Aircraft engines	53.06	51.33	48.67	42.0	40.9	40.3	126.3	125.4	120.8
Shipbuilding and boatbuilding	47.47	49.82	49.44	37.0	38.9	38.3	127.7	127.2	129.2
Motorcycles, bicycles, and parts	43.39	46.36	46.68	40.9	43.3	44.4	105.9	107.0	105.0
Automobiles	42.46	46.30	43.89	34.1	37.5	36.0	124.6	123.4	122.0
Nonferrous metals and their products	47.28	46.13	46.08	43.2	43.3	43.3	109.4	106.6	106.3
Smelting and refining, primary, of nonferrous metals	46.72	46.91	46.36	42.3	43.3	43.5	110.3	108.4	106.7
Alloying and rolling and drawing of nonferrous metals, except aluminum	52.89	51.69	50.78	45.1	45.5	44.8	117.4	113.5	113.1
Clocks and watches	40.11	39.31	39.12	41.7	41.0	41.4	96.9	95.8	94.4
Jewelry (precious metals) and jewelers' findings	47.14	47.12	48.47	44.6	44.6	45.3	105.7	105.6	106.6
Silverware and plated ware	52.84	51.87	52.20	46.8	46.9	46.9	112.4	110.6	111.3
Lighting equipment	42.58	42.54	40.61	40.9	41.1	40.1	104.2	103.6	101.4
Aluminum manufactures	45.96	41.85	42.88	42.0	41.0	41.3	109.4	102.1	103.7
Lumber and timber basic products	33.54	32.15	31.78	40.1	38.8	39.0	83.6	83.0	81.4
Sawmills and logging camps	31.91	30.58	30.15	39.4	38.0	38.2	81.0	80.4	79.0
Planing and plywood mills	38.48	36.95	37.00	42.3	40.9	41.8	91.1	90.4	88.4
Furniture and finished lumber products	36.83	36.09	36.50	42.3	41.8	42.5	87.1	86.3	85.9
Furniture	37.46	36.61	37.21	42.4	41.5	42.3	88.9	88.1	87.9
Caskets and other morticians' goods	40.60	39.49	39.22	43.5	43.7	43.9	92.7	89.2	88.4
Wood preserving	32.30	31.59	33.22	40.6	39.3	40.5	80.3	81.0	82.1
Stone, clay, and glass products	39.40	38.19	39.33	40.7	40.5	41.9	96.7	94.2	93.9
Glass and glassware	41.67	38.53	40.99	39.3	38.3	41.7	105.9	100.9	98.5
Glass products made from purchased glass	36.22	34.13	34.70	41.6	39.5	39.8	84.9	85.3	86.0
Cement	39.84	39.10	41.08	42.2	41.9	43.5	94.4	93.4	94.5
Brick, tile, and terra cotta	35.27	35.17	35.05	40.6	40.9	40.2	86.6	85.7	86.2
Pottery and related products	37.61	36.22	36.80	41.0	39.6	40.1	92.7	92.7	92.8
Gypsum	43.41	44.01	44.33	45.3	46.5	46.9	95.8	94.6	94.4
Lime	38.58	38.28	40.08	45.3	44.9	45.8	84.5	84.3	85.8
Marble, granite, slate, and other products	47.22	38.88	39.72	41.3	41.2	41.4	97.1	94.4	96.0
Abrasives	38.80	42.10	44.98	36.3	40.0	43.1	106.9	105.2	104.4
Asbestos products ²	46.27	45.96	45.02	43.6	44.3	43.7	106.2	103.8	103.1

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 6.—*Earnings and Hours in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries—Continued*

MANUFACTURING—Continued

Industry	Average weekly earnings ¹			Average weekly hours ¹			Average hourly earnings ¹		
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945
<i>Nondurable goods</i>									
Textile-mill products and other fiber manufactures.....	\$33.77	\$32.45	\$32.41	40.5	40.4	40.7	83.3	80.3	79.5
Cotton manufactures, except smallwares.....	30.14	29.03	29.25	40.0	40.1	40.5	75.3	72.5	72.1
Cotton smallwares.....	35.59	35.81	35.42	42.1	42.4	42.1	84.6	84.6	84.2
Silk and rayon goods.....	33.83	32.42	32.48	41.6	41.0	41.2	81.3	79.0	78.8
Woolen and worsted manufactures, except dyeing and finishing.....	41.04	38.52	37.64	41.6	41.8	41.9	98.8	92.2	90.0
Hosiery.....	33.15	31.68	31.66	38.4	37.4	37.8	86.2	84.6	83.8
Knitted cloth.....	37.73	36.66	36.18	43.8	43.5	43.9	86.2	84.3	82.4
Knitted outerwear and knitted gloves.....	33.14	31.87	32.17	39.3	38.3	38.9	83.8	82.2	81.6
Knitted underwear.....	28.53	27.89	27.77	39.0	38.6	38.5	72.9	72.0	71.8
Dyeing and finishing textiles, including woolen and worsted.....	39.89	38.84	38.85	43.9	44.1	44.2	90.9	88.2	87.9
Carpets and rugs, wool.....	40.09	39.62	39.92	40.7	40.4	41.0	98.5	98.3	97.5
Hats, fur-felt.....	48.81	50.03	49.33	41.2	42.1	41.7	118.1	118.5	118.4
Jute goods, except felts.....	35.86	34.89	35.55	43.3	42.7	44.0	83.1	81.6	80.8
Cordage and twine.....	31.70	33.58	33.74	40.4	42.8	43.3	78.5	78.2	77.8
Apparel and other finished textile products.....	33.65	33.21	31.88	36.5	36.7	36.4	92.2	90.6	87.5
Men's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	35.04	33.88	32.77	36.8	37.0	37.0	95.0	91.2	88.8
Shirts, collars, and nightwear.....	28.08	26.49	25.74	36.9	36.3	36.6	75.9	72.5	70.5
Underwear and neckwear, men's.....	29.61	28.13	28.93	36.9	36.0	37.5	79.8	78.1	77.1
Work shirts.....	21.37	21.00	19.37	35.3	35.2	33.6	60.7	59.9	57.6
Women's clothing, not elsewhere classified.....	42.70	42.95	41.07	35.7	36.1	35.6	117.1	116.6	112.6
Corsets and allied garments.....	32.29	32.10	30.82	38.2	38.9	39.0	84.0	82.6	79.2
Millinery.....	43.53	44.42	38.65	33.5	34.2	32.1	107.2	105.8	98.8
Handkerchiefs.....	26.87	24.32	24.73	36.9	34.9	35.9	73.0	70.3	68.8
Curtains, draperies, and bedspreads.....	25.36	25.78	26.34	34.1	34.6	34.4	73.0	73.2	74.5
Housefurnishings, other than curtains, etc.....	30.58	31.67	30.19	37.8	38.6	37.9	80.4	81.7	79.0
Textile bags.....	29.79	29.16	29.51	40.0	39.6	40.1	75.0	73.6	73.6
Leather and leather products.....	36.77	36.04	35.74	40.4	39.8	40.6	90.9	90.5	88.1
Leather.....	43.49	44.06	44.76	42.6	42.8	44.1	102.2	103.0	101.3
Boot and shoe cut stock and findings.....	35.99	35.85	34.93	40.7	40.9	40.4	89.0	88.2	86.9
Boots and shoes.....	35.70	34.73	34.13	40.1	39.2	39.9	88.8	87.8	84.8
Leather gloves and mittens.....	30.56	30.78	30.04	37.3	36.9	36.7	82.4	83.8	82.8
Trunks and suitcases.....	36.26	36.34	37.64	39.7	40.0	41.1	90.4	90.6	90.4
Food.....	40.95	41.43	41.49	44.3	45.0	45.3	92.5	92.2	91.5
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	43.01	46.68	47.51	46.0	48.7	50.1	94.1	96.1	95.1
Butter.....	37.20	37.20	36.47	46.1	46.1	45.7	80.5	80.6	79.6
Condensed and evaporated milk.....	39.31	38.72	37.39	47.6	46.7	46.5	82.5	82.9	80.5
Ice cream.....	42.24	41.82	41.89	47.0	46.8	46.7	86.7	86.3	86.1
Flour.....	48.35	45.65	44.98	50.6	49.4	49.0	95.6	92.4	91.9
Cereal preparations.....	42.52	43.01	43.78	41.4	41.8	42.4	102.8	103.0	103.3
Baking.....	41.15	40.95	41.28	45.1	45.4	45.7	91.3	90.4	90.4
Sugar refining, cane.....	34.84	36.97	37.37	39.6	42.0	42.6	88.0	88.0	87.7
Sugar, beet.....	39.80	40.04	39.63	39.6	41.7	43.5	100.6	95.9	91.1
Confectionery.....	32.60	33.21	33.60	40.0	40.3	41.3	80.3	80.2	79.4
Beverages, nonalcoholic.....	36.33	36.12	35.87	42.2	42.3	42.6	84.5	83.9	83.3
Malt liquors.....	54.55	53.06	54.23	44.3	43.9	44.9	123.2	120.9	120.8
Canning and preserving.....	33.12	33.97	33.87	39.3	40.1	40.1	85.0	85.1	84.9
Tobacco manufactures.....	32.04	32.43	31.53	38.4	39.3	39.1	83.3	82.6	80.6
Cigarettes.....	35.50	36.13	32.57	38.7	40.3	37.3	91.7	89.7	87.2
Cigars.....	29.91	30.20	31.21	38.5	39.0	40.7	77.9	77.5	76.4
Tobacco (chewing and smoking) and snuff.....	27.49	27.28	29.31	37.1	36.5	39.4	74.1	74.8	74.4
Paper and allied products.....	41.30	41.27	41.46	44.0	44.4	45.6	94.0	92.9	91.0
Paper and pulp.....	44.34	44.23	44.67	45.2	45.5	47.2	98.5	97.2	94.5
Envelopes.....	38.66	39.54	38.34	43.1	43.8	43.6	89.7	89.8	88.0
Paper bags.....	35.87	36.39	36.26	41.6	42.2	43.3	86.3	86.4	84.1
Paper boxes.....	37.30	37.55	37.91	42.7	43.2	44.1	87.5	86.9	86.1
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....	49.61	49.30	49.28	40.8	41.1	41.5	121.6	120.0	118.8
Newspapers and periodicals.....	53.62	52.95	52.70	38.6	38.0	38.5	137.1	136.4	134.6
Printing, book and job.....	48.16	48.18	47.92	42.0	42.9	43.0	115.2	113.0	111.8
Lithographing.....	50.51	52.07	52.38	42.4	43.7	44.7	118.8	119.1	117.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	42.62	42.57	42.55	41.7	42.0	42.5	102.1	101.4	100.1
Paints, varnishes and colors.....	45.49	45.18	45.53	43.2	43.4	44.2	105.0	103.9	103.2
Drugs, medicines, and insecticides ¹	37.38	36.28	36.40	40.7	39.6	40.8	92.2	91.9	89.3
Soap.....	46.76	48.17	48.20	43.3	45.2	45.2	108.0	106.5	106.6
Rayon and allied products.....	38.66	39.23	39.64	38.6	39.2	40.0	100.2	99.9	99.1
Chemicals, not elsewhere classified.....	50.67	50.72	49.56	42.2	42.9	42.8	119.4	117.9	115.9
Explosives and safety fuses.....	48.08	46.96	48.90	40.8	40.2	41.7	118.6	117.4	117.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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TABLE 6.—Earnings and Hours in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries—Continued

MANUFACTURING—Continued

Industry	Average weekly earnings ¹			Average weekly hours ¹			Average hourly earnings ¹		
	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945
<i>Nondurable goods—Continued</i>									
Chemicals and allied products—Continued							<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
Ammunition, small-arms.....	\$43.97	\$42.89	\$42.32	42.4	41.4	40.8	103.6	103.7	103.8
Cottonseed oil.....	29.26	29.76	29.94	49.4	51.5	52.3	59.3	57.7	57.2
Fertilizers.....	30.81	29.88	30.24	43.0	41.2	41.9	71.6	72.5	72.2
Products of petroleum and coal.....	52.95	52.06	53.05	41.4	41.7	42.9	127.9	124.9	123.6
Petroleum refining.....	56.25	54.59	55.42	40.7	40.9	42.1	136.9	133.0	131.5
Coke and byproducts ¹	44.42	44.95	46.47	41.9	42.5	44.1	106.4	106.0	105.4
Roofing materials.....	45.86	47.00	46.64	45.7	46.6	47.3	100.4	100.9	98.5
Rubber products.....	45.85	46.71	45.48	40.6	41.7	40.9	112.9	112.1	111.3
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	48.90	50.29	48.54	38.4	39.9	38.7	126.6	125.5	124.7
Rubber boots and shoes.....	41.69	41.72	40.79	43.9	44.2	43.4	95.1	94.5	94.0
Rubber goods, other.....	42.65	42.91	42.39	43.2	43.7	43.4	98.8	98.2	97.7
Miscellaneous industries.....	41.29	41.33	41.49	41.8	41.7	42.1	98.8	99.0	98.5
Instruments (professional and scientific), and fire control equipment.....	46.20	47.67	47.53	40.5	41.8	41.4	113.5	114.0	114.3
Pianos, organs, and parts.....	39.66	40.74	42.06	40.3	41.9	43.8	98.7	97.6	96.4

NONMANUFACTURING

Mining:							<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
Anthracite.....	\$56.84	\$48.63	\$54.62	41.2	36.4	39.6	137.6	133.9	138.0
Bituminous coal ²	57.18	54.23	58.09	45.0	43.3	45.7	127.0	126.2	128.1
Metal.....	37.83	43.04	44.14	35.8	41.7	42.0	105.5	103.2	105.1
Iron ³	19.94	37.63	40.00	20.0	38.7	39.0	100.0	97.7	102.6
Copper ³	46.08	45.07	46.34	44.3	43.6	44.4	103.9	103.4	104.4
Lead and zinc ³	49.48	47.89	48.00	44.8	43.9	43.7	110.4	109.2	109.9
Quarrying and nonmetallic.....	40.27	39.25	40.07	44.4	43.3	44.2	91.2	90.7	90.8
Crude-petroleum production.....	52.45	51.89	51.70	40.5	41.1	41.0	129.0	125.7	125.1
Public utilities:									
Telephone.....	44.37	41.19	41.44	40.7	40.1	41.1	109.5	103.0	101.1
Telegraph ⁴	(⁵)	(⁵)	36.61	(⁵)	(⁵)	44.5	(⁵)	(⁵)	82.2
Electric light and power.....	50.63	50.32	50.49	42.4	42.7	42.0	119.5	117.7	118.6
Street railways and busses.....	50.71	49.74	51.22	49.5	49.2	50.7	101.3	100.7	101.3
Wholesale trade.....	46.07	45.14	44.71	41.9	41.8	42.0	109.5	107.0	105.8
Retail trade.....	30.77	30.54	29.12	40.5	40.3	40.1	83.7	82.6	79.6
Food.....	36.36	36.23	35.38	40.5	40.7	40.7	85.7	84.2	82.3
General merchandise.....	25.37	25.05	24.33	36.8	36.8	36.2	68.4	68.3	64.8
Apparel.....	32.00	31.83	31.03	37.6	37.1	37.0	87.1	87.2	85.8
Furniture and house furnishings.....	42.32	41.44	41.69	43.4	43.6	43.5	99.7	98.0	97.0
Automotive.....	45.87	46.06	45.33	46.1	45.9	46.2	100.1	99.2	98.7
Lumber and building materials.....	40.73	40.37	39.57	42.9	43.1	42.8	96.0	95.4	94.1
Hotels (year-round) ⁵	26.43	26.21	25.94	43.7	43.4	44.4	60.2	60.4	58.5
Power laundries.....	29.22	29.38	29.18	43.3	43.6	43.3	67.5	67.5	67.6
Cleaning and dyeing.....	33.33	33.83	33.30	42.5	43.1	43.0	79.3	79.3	78.9
Brokerage.....	72.52	71.77	71.39	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Insurance.....	50.93	49.77	48.64	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)

¹ These figures are based on reports from cooperating establishments covering both full- and part-time employees who worked during any part of one pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. As not all reporting firms furnish man-hour data, average hours and average hourly earnings for individual industries are based on a slightly smaller sample than are weekly earnings. Data for the current and immediately preceding months are subject to revision.

² Revisions have been made as follows in the data for earlier months:

Steel castings.—November 1945 to \$46.11 and 41.3 hours.

Refrigerators and refrigeration equipment.—November 1945 to \$44.65 and 108.1 cents.

Asbestos products.—November 1945 to \$44.85 and 44.0 hours.

Drugs, medicines, and insecticides.—October 1945 to 86.7 cents.

Coke and byproducts.—November 1945 to \$45.74 and 43.8 hours.

Bituminous coal.—October 1945 to \$39.09 and 32.2 hours.

³ Comparable data from January 1939 available upon request.

⁴ Excludes messengers and approximately 6,000 employees of general and divisional headquarters, and of cable companies. January and February 1946 data are not available.

⁵ Cash payments only; additional value of board, room, and tips not included.

⁶ Not available.

*To prevent misinterpretation of the average of \$1.222 for those workers who were employed in February in blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills, it is not shown in the table. The increase from \$1.162 to \$1.222 per hour does not measure the increase awarded when the steel strike was settled. Maintenance workers were kept on during the strike, while low-paid production workers were out. Since hours and weekly earnings are normally used only to interpret what has happened to those people who were employed, these figures are shown but should be used with caution.

Labor Force, March 1946

THE civilian labor force increased by 1,320,000 persons between February and March 1946 to reach the level of 55,600,000, according to the Bureau of the Census Monthly Report on the Labor Force. During the month, the volume of employment rose by 1,260,000, while unemployment showed a slight increase of 60,000 to total 2,710,000.

The substantial monthly increases in unemployment since October were at least temporarily brought to a halt between February and March. Unemployment among ex-servicemen, however, continued to rise considerably during the month, being largely offset by a drop in the number of nonveterans. This latter development may reflect the return to work of numbers of men previously laid off because of material shortages resulting from labor-management disputes.

The number of unemployed men in March (2,200,000) was more than four times that of unemployed women. Male unemployment exceeded the corresponding VJ-day level by 1,770,000, female unemployment, by 110,000. Over half of the men looking for work in March were ex-servicemen. In addition, more than one million discharged veterans were on vacation, temporarily postponing their entrance into the labor market.

Total Labor Force in the United States, Classified by Employment Status, Hours Worked and Sex, February and March 1946

[Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census]

Item	Estimated number (in thousands) of persons 14 years of age and over ¹					
	Total, both sexes		Male		Female	
	Febru- ary	March	Febru- ary	March	Febru- ary	March
Total labor force ²	59, 550	60, 040	43, 440	43, 650	16, 110	16, 390
Civilian labor force.....	54, 340	55, 660	38, 340	39, 370	16, 000	16, 290
Unemployment.....	2, 650	2, 710	2, 140	2, 200	510	510
Employment.....	51, 690	52, 950	36, 200	37, 170	15, 490	15, 780
Nonagricultural.....	44, 700	45, 370	30, 140	30, 750	14, 560	14, 620
Worked 35 hours or more.....	36, 720	38, 070	25, 630	26, 770	11, 090	11, 300
Worked 15-34 hours.....	4, 170	4, 020	2, 060	2, 010	2, 110	2, 010
Worked 1-14 hours ³	1, 320	1, 270	590	560	730	710
With a job but not at work ⁴	2, 490	2, 010	1, 860	1, 410	630	600
Agricultural.....	6, 990	7, 580	6, 060	6, 420	930	1, 160
Worked 35 hours or more.....	4, 550	5, 540	4, 320	5, 190	230	350
Worked 15-34 hours.....	1, 830	1, 700	1, 290	1, 000	540	700
Worked 1-14 hours ³	330	190	220	110	110	(*)
With a job but not at work ⁴	280	150	230	120	(*)	(*)

¹ Estimates are subject to sampling variation which may be large in cases where the quantities shown are relatively small. Therefore, the smaller estimates should be used with caution; those under 100,000 are not presented in the table but are replaced with an asterisk (*). All data exclude persons in institutions.

² Total labor force consists of the civilian labor force and the armed forces. Estimates of the armed forces during the census week are projected from data on net strength as of the first of the month.

³ Excludes persons engaged only in incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours); these persons are classified as not in the labor force.

⁴ Includes persons who had a job or business, but who did not work during the census week because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor dispute, or because of temporary lay-off with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of lay-off. Does not include unpaid family workers.

The expansion in employment between February and March was fairly evenly divided between agricultural and nonagricultural employment. Farm employment rose seasonally by 590,000 during the month, as spring plowing and planting began in many areas. The number of persons engaged in nonagricultural activity increased by 670,000, principally reflecting the large number of ex-servicemen who found jobs during the month.

The level of nonfarm employment (45,370,000) was 900,000 above that of August, just before the war's end—an increase of 3,050,000 among men was only partially offset by a decline of 2,150,000 among women.

Labor Chronology

Chronology of Labor Events, January-March 1946

JANUARY

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- Jan. 2. The National Wage Stabilization Board (established by Executive Order No. 9672 of Dec. 31, 1945) in Department of Labor began operations. It superseded the National War Labor Board, exercising the remaining wage-stabilization functions of that Board.
- Chief function of the NWSB is to rule on applications for approval of voluntary wage increases which may affect prices or rent ceilings, or result in higher costs to the Government. The NWSB determines whether such wage increases may be used as a basis for seeking price relief, but no approval is needed to put the increase into effect if the employer desires. The Board will exercise jurisdiction over wage decreases which require prior approval before becoming effective and will enforce the Wage Stabilization Act of October 2, 1942 (see Chron. item for that date, MLR, Feb. 1943). The Wage Adjustment Board, will continue to control wage adjustments in the building and construction industry, which also continue to require advance approval. (Source: National Wage Stabilization Board, Release No. 2.)
- Jan. 3. The President, in his message to Congress on the State of the Union, recommended legislation (previously requested in his message of December 3, 1945) providing for investigation of labor disputes, and a 30-day "cooling-off period" before a strike is actually called. He stated that "production is the greatest weapon against inflation," but stressed the need of price controls. (Source: White House release of Jan. 3, 1946, p. 3; for summary, see MLR, April 1946, p. 592.)
- Jan. 4. Interstate bus employees returned to work, ending 64-day strike involving members of Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America (AFL) employed by various Greyhound bus companies. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor release of Feb. 24, 1946.)
- On March 12, wage increase of about 14 percent, recommended by fact-finding panel appointed December 19, 1945, was accepted. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor release S 46-524 and that of Feb. 24, 1946.) (For details, see MLR, April 1946, p. 548.)
- Jan. 12. An 18-percent increase in basic wages was recommended by fact-finding panel in dispute between Oil Workers International Union (CIO) and 53 oil companies (including 36 seized by Government under Executive Order No. 9639 of October 4, 1945, following stoppage that began on September 17, 1945 (Sources: Federal Register vol. 10, p. 12,592; MLR, Nov. 1945, p. 976; and U. S. Dept. of Labor release of Jan. 12, 1946, pp. 1 and 18.) By the end of February all but 8 of seized refineries had negotiated contracts with employees and were returned to private operation. (Source: MLR, March 1946, p. 429; and unpublished records of BLS.)
- Jan. 16. The Stabilization Administrator of NWSB approved a negotiated wage increase of 15 percent, affecting 28,000 employees of Lockheed Aircraft Corp. of Burbank, Calif., to be absorbed by the company

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without price increase for 50 percent of its production (i. e., for commercial airlines). The Administrator acted on account of the effect on cost-plus-fixed-fee Government contracts which comprise 20 percent of the production. The corporation stipulated that the increase would not be used, for at least 6 months, to increase costs to the Government under the provisions of any fixed-price contract affecting the remaining 30 percent of production. The increase was retroactive to November 5, 1945.

Approval was granted under section 307 of the December 5, 1945, regulations of the Administrator, which authorized reference to his office for approval of a negotiated increase not approvable under the usual criteria, if the increase involves only increased costs to the Government (not price ceilings) and if, in the Board's opinion, the increase is consistent with wage-stabilization policies. (Source: NWSB, Release No. 4.)

Jan. 16. The Director of the Readjustment Allowance Service of the Veterans Administration, in a claim for readjustment allowance under the GI Bill of Rights (see Chron. item for June 22, 1944, MLR, Sept. 1944, p. 666; for summary, see MLR, Aug. 1944, p. 383) decided that the claimant was disqualified from receiving allowances on and after November 21, 1945 (the date of his unemployment) and until no longer unemployed because of a labor dispute in which he was directly interested. The claimant certified that he was an employee of the General Motors Corp. and was unemployed owing to a work stoppage. (Source: Veterans Administration, RAR-124.)

Jan. 19. The NWSB approved an agreement for a minimum wage of 65 cents an hour in 19 cotton and rayon textile-manufacturing plants in New Bedford and Fall River, Mass., as being "necessary to aid in the correction of substandards of living, and * * * fully justified under the wage-stabilization program." (Source: NWSB, Release No. 5.)

Jan. 24. The United Mine Workers of America reaffiliated with the American Federation of Labor. John L. Lewis, president of the UMWA, became thirteenth vice president of the Federation after his organization indicated its acceptance of the laws of the AFL and made payment of the per capita tax on 600,000 members. (Source: United Mine Workers Journal, Feb. 15, 1946, p. 3; and American Federationist, Feb. 1946, pp. 3 and 6.)

Jan. 26. The United Automobile, Aircraft, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (CIO) negotiated an increase of 18½ cents an hour with the Chrysler Corp. and 18 cents an hour with the Ford Motor Co. The U. S. Secretary of Labor commended the settlement of these wage controversies (which involved nearly 200,000 workers) by genuine collective bargaining without a work stoppage, as indicating a highly significant trend. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor S46-502.)

Jan. 26. The Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion issued a directive transferring necessary powers under the War Mobilization Act of 1944 (for summary, see MLR for Jan. 1945, p. 120) to the Housing Expediter, established within his office to develop and carry out plans for alleviating the housing emergency. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, p. 1419.)

The President, by Executive Order No. 9686, provided that the Housing Expediter previously established in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion should formulate plans for housing accommodations of all kinds and particularly for veterans of World War II and their immediate families; issue necessary directives; recommend legislation; and consult with other public and private agencies in remedying the housing emergency. The Government executive agencies were ordered to aid in solving the housing emergency. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, p. 1033.)

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Feb. 5. The NWSB in approving an increase of 5 cents an hour for 1,400 trucking employees in Baltimore, retroactive to September 1, 1945, stated that the wartime increases "in lieu of" overtime rates and other benefits need not be considered as part of the average straight-time hourly earnings in applying the cost-of-living wage formula of the NWSB. (Source: NWSB -8.)

Feb. 7. The National Housing Expediter (see Chron. item for Jan. 26, this issue) recommended that construction of 2.7 million low- and moderate-cost homes must be started by the end of 1947. The goal for 1946 would be 1.2 million homes started, including 700,000 of conventional types, 250,000 permanent prefabricated, etc., and 250,000 temporary; that for 1947 would be 1.5 million started, including 900,000 conventional and 600,000 permanent prefabricated. He also recommended preference for veterans and their families in housing; greatly expanded production of conventional and new-type materials; recruitment and training of 1.5 million additional on-site and off-site workers by mid-1947; postponement of all deferrable and nonessential construction during 1946, to facilitate necessary building; and measures to encourage production of residential building materials. (Source: U. S. Municipal News, Mar. 1, 1946, p. 1.)

On February 27, the Administrator of the National Housing Agency issued a regulation stipulating that vacancies in public war housing projects must be reserved exclusively for distressed veterans and families of servicemen and veterans (except as otherwise authorized in the regulation). Provision was made for the establishment of fair rentals. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, p. 2111.)

Feb. 11. The NWSB, in a case involving the Ford Motor Co., ruled that an employer may not reduce weekly wages as partial offset to loss of income resulting from changes and cancellations of Government contract work. It cannot be shown, the Board stated, that the wage reduction would aid the effective transition to a peacetime economy. (Source: U. S. Law Week, Vol. 14, Sec. 2, p. 2467.)

Feb. 12. The Political and Security Committee of the United Nations voted by 24 to 9 to give the World Federation of Trade Unions, the American Federation of Labor, and the International Cooperative Alliance standing as "advisory" affiliates. (Source: Labor, Feb. 16, 1946, p. 1; and The Cooperator, Mar. 4, 1946.)

Feb. 13. The Retraining and Reemployment Administration issued Order No. 3 providing for the establishment of community "advisory centers." That agency was created by Executive Order No. 9427, and was transferred to the U. S. Department of Labor by Executive Order No. 9617 of September 19, 1945, from the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion (see Chron. item for Oct. 3, 1944, MLR, Apr. 1945; for summary see MLR, Jan. 1945, p. 120). Each center is to supply veterans with information, referral service, counseling, and clearing-house functions. All Federal agencies subject to the jurisdiction of RRA will cooperate with State and local agencies in the establishment and operation of the advisory centers. (Source: RRA Order No. 3.)

On March 18, the Administrator of the RRA provided for the establishment of the Interagency Committee for Development of Criteria and Standards for On-the-Job Training. Membership is to consist of a chairman and secretary designated by the Administrator and representatives of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, Navy, and War, the Civil Service Commission, and the Federal Security Agency. (Source: RRA-65.)

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Feb. 14. The President, by Executive Order No. 9697, empowered the National Wage Stabilization Board or other wage or salary stabilization agency having jurisdiction to approve any wage or salary increase consistent with the general pattern established between August 18, 1945, and the effective date of this order. Except for pre-approved rises, wage increases to be used as a basis for seeking price increases were made subject to Government approval. The Price Administrator was authorized to adjust price ceilings promptly, notwithstanding the provisions of Executive Order No. 9599 of August 18, 1945, as amended, if hardship results from an approved wage or salary increase. The Stabilization Administrator in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion was granted full authority to make necessary orders and directives to carry out the purposes of the order. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, p. 1691.) (For discussion, see MLR, Mar. 1946, p. 397.)

Feb. 15. The United Steelworkers of America (CIO) and the steel-producing subsidiaries of the United States Steel Corp. (and later other large companies) agreed to a wage increase of 18½ cents an hour in settlement of a strike which started on January 21 and affected 750,000 workers. (Sources: U. S. Dept. of Labor LS 46-2100, and MLR, Mar. 1946, p. 426.)

On March 7, the NWSB pre-approved, for pricing purposes, increases up to 18½ cents an hour above August 17, 1945, rates to "white collar" employees in basic steel plants and other related plants which come under the provisions of the February 21 order of the Stabilization Administrator generally affecting production workers. (See Chron. items for Feb. 14 and 21, this issue.) The action was taken to permit elimination of intra-plant inequities in plants which agreed to 18½-cent increases for production workers. (Source: NWSB-23.)

Feb. 15. The War Assets Corporation announced the appointment of a Veterans Policy Committee composed of representatives of leading veterans' organizations. The Veterans Policy Committee is to assist the War Assets Corporation in protecting the veterans' interest in surplus-property disposal. (Source: WAC-C-236.)

On February 20, the U. S. Employment Service launched a Nation-wide canvass of employers to find suitable job openings for over 6 million veterans, displaced war workers, and other applicants, stating that "The Nation is giving neither the returning veterans nor the displaced war workers the job opportunities their skills and abilities merit." (Source: USES release of Feb. 20, 1946.)

On February 20, the Administrator of Veterans Affairs stated that the unemployment rate for veterans in the labor force was about three times as high as the rate for the civilian labor force as a whole. Only about a ninth of the physically handicapped veterans applying for jobs were successful in getting them. (Source: VA release of Feb. 20, 1946, pp. 2 and 3.)

Feb. 15. The NWSB, in approving the discontinuance of a 10-percent wartime attendance bonus paid by the Bullard Co. of Bridgeport, Conn., held that such discontinuance was not a reduction in wages under Executive Order No. 9250 of October 3, 1942 (for discussion see MLR for Nov. 1942, p. 917) which forbids the reduction of wages below the highest level paid between January and September 1942. (Source: NWSB-11.)

Feb. 19. The NWSB amended General Order 41 (governing wage increases in the building-construction industry) to provide that standards for approval of wage increases were unchanged, notwithstanding the wage-price policy established under Executive Order No. 9697 (see Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue; for summary, see MLR for Mar. 1946, p. 397). The Wage Adjustment Board will approve increases necessary to correct maladjustments and

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inequities in building-construction wages which would interfere with effective transition to a peacetime economy. (Source: NWSB-16.)

- Feb. 20. The President approved the Employment Act of 1946, in which the continuing policy and responsibility of the Federal Government is declared to be the coordination and utilization of all of its plans, functions, and resources for the purpose of creating and maintaining conditions under which there will be afforded useful employment opportunities, including self-employment. Provision is made for an annual economic report by the President, and for creation of cooperating bodies in the form of a Council of Economic Advisers in the Executive Office and a Joint Committee on the Economic Report in Congress. (Source: Public Act No. 304, 79th Cong. 2d. sess.; for summary see MLR, Apr. 1946, p. 586.)
- Feb. 21. The Stabilization Administrator issued General Order No. 1, postponing until March 15, 1946, the effective date of the requirement that prior approval must be obtained for wage and salary increases which are to be used as a basis for price relief under Executive Order No. 9697 of February 14, 1946. (See Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue.) Approval of other than pre-approved adjustments must be sought within 30 days of the date when the increase is first reflected in current pay rolls. Pre-approval was granted to wage and salary increases made by employers of 8 employees or less; to certain fringe types of wage or salary increases; and to increases not in excess of 18½ cents per hour over rates paid on August 18, 1945, in plants engaged in the basic steel industry (see Chron. item for Feb. 15, this issue) and the iron-ore mining industry, and in certain plants engaged in the steel processing or fabricating industry. The NWSB and other wage or salary stabilization agencies were authorized to issue general orders giving pre-approval to wage increases in specified industries or local labor-market areas in amounts not to exceed those determined by the NWSB to constitute an approvable general pattern in the industry or local labor-market area involved. (Source: OSA-19 and 19A.)
- Feb. 21. The President, by Executive Order No. 9699, reestablished the Office of Economic Stabilization (see Chron. item for Oct. 3, 1942, MLR, Feb. 1943; for summary, see MLR, Nov. 1942, p. 917) which had been abolished by Executive Order No. 9620 of September 20, 1945. Powers were restored. The Economic Stabilization Director in the OES was granted all of the functions given to the Stabilization Administrator, including the authority vested in the Stabilization Administrator by Executive Order No. 9697 (see Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue; for summary, see MLR for Mar. 1946, p. 397). The Economic Stabilization Board was also reestablished on its former basis in the OES. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, p. 1929.)
- Feb. 25. The Supreme Court in the case of *Social Security Board v. Nertoko* decided that back pay awarded to an employee under an order of the NLRB must be counted as "wages" and therefore credited to employees' old-age and survivors insurance account under the Social Security Act. (Source: Labor Relations Reporter, Vol. 17, p. 879.)
- Feb. 25. The U. S. Secretary of Labor appointed a Labor Education Advisory Committee consisting of five representatives each of the AFL and CIO. The purpose of this body is to establish an intelligent educational program directed toward the training of capable union leadership and a membership well informed in the rights and responsibilities of unionism. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor release, Feb. 25, 1946.)

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Feb. 26. The NWSB, in the strike of about 125,000 AFL and CIO packing-house workers which started January 16 (Sources: U. S. Dept. of Labor, LS 46-2100 and MLR, Mar. 1946, p. 428), announced an increase of 16 cents per hour for all production workers in the five major meat-packing plants and for all "white collar" workers whose salaries did not exceed \$120 a week. Pre-approval was also given to other wage increases within the industry, as the recommendation of the fact-finding board on Feb. 7 had resulted in a general pattern of wage adjustment to this extent. (Source: NWSB-10A; see Chron. items for Feb. 14 and 21, this issue.) The President by Executive Orders Nos. 9685 of January 24 and 9690 of February 2, had authorized the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture to take possession of and operate certain packing-house plants. (Source: Federal Register, Vol. 11, pp. 989 and 1337.)

Feb. 26. The NWSB announced that an increase of 18 cents an hour for an estimated 275,000 shipbuilding employees was approvable under the national wage-price policy established by Executive Order No. 9697 (see Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue). (Source: NWSB-17.) The increase was recommended by the National Shipbuilding Conference on February 18. (Source: NWSB-24.) On March 8, the NWSB under General Wage Order No. 1 (see Chron. item for Feb. 21, this issue) pre-approved wage or salary increases of up to 18 cents an hour above the rate received August 17, 1945, for pricing purposes, for employees whose wages or salaries are subject to the jurisdiction of the National Wage Stabilization Board. (Source: NWSB-24.)

Feb. 28. The Committee for Economic Development (a private, nonprofit corporation) recommended measures to prevent inflation and depression in the transition from war to peace. The recommendations included maintenance of price controls until June 30, 1947; retention of existing tax rates and the making of every effort to balance the budget at those rates in 1946-47; the preparation of plans for public works to be started when needed; and the extension of unemployment-compensation coverage. (Source: Advance Summary of Key Recommendations in Jobs and Markets, a study for the Committee for Economic Development, New York, 1946; see Chron. item for Jan. 1, 1943, MLR, May 1943.)

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Mar. 2. The NWSB announced the approval, for pricing purposes, of wage increases amounting to 19 cents an hour above VJ-day rates for 39,000 employees of the Aluminum Co. of America in 40 plants and facilities. (Source: NWSB-19.)

The United Rubber Workers (CIO) and the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., the B. F. Goodrich Co., and the United States Rubber Co. negotiated an increase of 18½ cents an hour. Of this amount 12 cents was payable retroactive to November 1, 1945. (Source: NWSB-25.)

The increases were granted under section 3 (a) of Executive Order No. 9697 permitting correction of gross inequities in wage increases between "related industries." (See Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue.)

Mar. 7. The Federation of Long Lines Telephone Workers and the American Telephone and Telegraph Long Lines Department averted a national strike when they reached an agreement establishing a national wage pattern. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor release, of Mar. 7, 1946.)

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- Mar. 7. The NLRB, in a case involving the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. and the United Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Employees Union—a division of the United Mine Workers (AFL), held that supervisors and production employees may be represented by the same union in different units. An election was ordered to determine the bargaining agent of supervisory personnel. (Source: Labor Relations Reporter, Mar. 11, 1946, p. 915.)
- Mar. 8. The Economic Stabilization Director issued supplementary regulations for carrying out the stabilization of wages and salaries under Executive Orders Nos. 9697 and 9699 (see Chron. items for Feb. 14 and 21, this issue). Any employer may put into effect unapproved wage increases without prejudice to his right of later applying for approval to be used as a basis for seeking price relief, provided that no present intention exists of using the increase as a basis for price relief and the employer so states in a notice describing the increase, filed within 30 days after the increase is first reflected in current pay rolls. (Source: OES release of Mar. 8, 1946, pp. 1, 3.)
- Mar. 13. The General Motors Corporation and the United Automobile Workers of America (CIO) settled a 113-day strike by reaching an agreement providing for a wage increase of 18½ cents an hour. (Source: Labor Relations Reporter, Vol. 17, p. 960.) The dispute started on November 21, 1945. The report of the fact-finding board appointed by the President to investigate the dispute had recommended an increase of 19½ cents an hour in its report issued on January 10, 1946. (Source: White House release of Jan. 10, 1946, p. 1, and U. S. Dept. of Labor, LS 46-2100.)
- Mar. 13. The General Electric Co. and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO) settled a strike which began on January 15, 1946. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor LS 46-2100.) They agreed to a wage increase of 18½ cents an hour. (Sources: NAM Weekly Digest of Labor Rulings and Decisions, Mar. 16, 1946, and CIO News of Mar. 18, 1946.)
- Mar. 13. The NWSB approved any wage or salary increases which were formally agreed or determined upon prior to February 14, 1946, if (1) application was pending for approval on that date; (2) the parties had been notified of conditions under which the increases would be lawfully made before February 14, 1946, within the meaning of Executive Order No. 9697 (see Chron. item for Feb. 14, this issue) and hence approved under section 3 (d); and (3) such increases were actually made not later than March 15, 1946. (Source: NWSB-26.)
- Mar. 14. A Conference on Employment Problems of Women was held, under the auspices of the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. (Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor release of Mar. 14, 1946.) Its purpose was to discuss the situation of women in the postwar world.
- Mar. 18. The NWSB granted pre-approval, for pricing purposes (see Chron. items for Feb. 14 and 21, this issue) of wage increases of up to 18½ cents per hour above August 17, 1945, rates, for employees in the refractories industry, which supplies firebrick and other products used in steel manufacturing. The NWSB found that a wage inequity existed between the steel industry and the refractories industry. (Source: NWSB-28; see Chron. item for Feb. 15, this issue.)
- Mar. 20. The NWSB granted approval of wage increases to bring rates up to 65 cents an hour, as a basis for seeking price relief, without cific approval by the Board. (Source: NWSB-29.)

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Mar. 20. The Treasury Department authorized employers to grant pay increases to salaried employees to correct intracompany inequities resulting from NWSB-approved wage increases, in amounts not in excess of the dollar-and-cents increases given to hourly rated employees under a pattern or pre-approval order of NWSB. Employees earning in excess of \$7,500 a year were excluded. The amount of any increase under the approval was to be reduced by any general salary increase granted after August 17, 1945. (Source: U. S. Treasury Dept. release Mar. 20, 1946, Com. Mim. Coll. No. 5995, SSU: WAG.)

Mar. 25. The Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of *United States v. Carbone et al*, held that on construction work on Government contracts the trade-unions were within their rights in demanding payments from laborers on Government contracts as part of their initiation fees into unions. The majority held that there appeared to be a lawful closed-shop agreement of which the payment was a part. (Source: U. S. Law Week of Mar. 26, 1946; see this issue of MLR, p. 759.)

Mar. 26. The Civilian Production Administration issued housing-program order No. 1 whereby new building construction was limited to housing for veterans and to meet other specific requirements. (Source: CPA release of Mar. 26, 1946.)

On March 28, the President approved an act providing for a \$250,000,000 building program to supply 100,000 temporary housing units for veterans and their families. (Source: Public Act No. 336, 79th Cong., 2d sess.)

Mar. 28. The NWSB granted approval, for pricing purposes (see Chron. items for Feb. 14 and 21, this issue), of a general pattern of wage and salary increases up to 15 cents an hour above August 17, 1945, rates, for upwards of 125,000 workers in the West Coast lumber industry, employed by about 2,500 companies. (Source: NWSB—31.)

Mar. 31. The contract between the United Mines Workers of America and the bituminous-coal operators expired at midnight. No action had been taken on UMWA proposals for incorporation in a national bituminous wage agreement, which were submitted on March 12 to the National Bituminous Wage Conference. (Source: United Mine Workers Journal, Mar. 15, 1946, p. 5.)

Recent Publications of Labor Interest

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Child Labor

Thirty-third annual report of the chief of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, fiscal year ended June 30, 1945. Washington, [1946]. 34 pp.; mimeographed. Free.

Child labor in Alaska. Washington, U. S. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau, 1945. 22 pp.; mimeographed. Free.

Street trades and public exhibition permits [in Wisconsin], 1944. Madison, Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, 1945. 16 pp., map; mimeographed.

Report of the Committee on the Juvenile Employment Service, [Great Britain]. London, Ministry of Labor and National Service, 1945. 63 pp. 1s. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

The committee makes recommendations for strengthening the training of juveniles and for aiding them in obtaining suitable work. Appointment of a national advisory council on juvenile employment is supported and other administrative changes are proposed.

Economic and Social Problems

The economy in war and transition—a review of 1945. (In Survey of Current Business, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, February 1946, pp. 1-32; charts. 20 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.)

Although the article relates primarily to 1945, extensive background information is included, as, for example, national income and national production figures on a quarterly basis from 1941 to 1945.

Inflation and the American economy. By Seymour E. Harris. New York, McGraw Hill Book Co., 1945. 559 pp., charts. \$5.

The author describes inflation as a symptom of disease in a country's economy and therefore analyzes the economic system of the United States in an attempt to find the causes of inflation. Price aspects of the problem are emphasized. The two main topics are supplies of goods, including the effects of rising productivity, and demand for goods. Under the latter head, price changes, the Bureau of Labor Statistics cost-of-living (consumers' price) index, and the relation of wages and wage policies to demand are examined. Analysis of wartime developments and evaluation of trends during demobilization, reconversion, and the postwar period lead the author to his "main conclusion" that postwar dangers are more likely to be deflationary than inflationary.

Proposals for expansion of world trade and employment. Washington, U. S. Department of State, 1945. 28 pp. (Publication No. 2411; Commercial policy series No. 79.)

Proposals developed by government experts for consideration in preparation for an International Conference on Trade and Employment. The proposals generally relate to reduction of trade barriers imposed by government and by private combines, attainment of high levels of employment within each nation, and functioning of an international trade organization.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Correspondence regarding the publications to which reference is made in this list should be addressed to the respective publishing agencies mentioned. Where data on prices were readily available, they have been shown with the title entries.

Public finance and full employment. By Richard A. Musgrave and others. Washington, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 1945. 157 pp., charts. (Postwar economic studies, No. 3.) 25 cents.

Discussion of policies relating to Government expenditures, taxes, and debts. These policies are viewed as being of strategic importance because of their effects on the level of total demand for goods and services on which depends the full employment of labor and capital. The authors emphasize the need for adaptability of fiscal policy to keep in hand both inflationary and deflationary trends, the latter being regarded by most of the writers as more serious in the long run. Critical comments are appended to the volume.

Renovated capitalism. By Martin V. Jones. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1945. 60 pp. (Studies in business administration, Vol. 15, No. 4; supplement to Journal of Business of the University of Chicago, October 1945.)

Argues that the elimination of big business and labor unions is politically impossible, but that their monopolistic powers must be controlled in the interest of full employment and political stability. Proposes compulsory arbitration of labor disputes, not as a method of eliminating strikes but primarily to guard against union wage policies injurious to the public interest.

Economic controls and commercial policy in Mexico. Washington, U. S. Tariff Commission, 1946. 46 pp., map; processed. 15 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Employment (General)

Full employment in the transition period. (In International Labor Review, Montreal, December 1945, pp. 589-608. 50 cents. Distributed in United States by Washington branch of I. L. O.)

Explanation of policies recommended at Philadelphia (1944) and Paris (1945) sessions of International Labor Conference, for the achievement and maintenance of full employment.

Planning for jobs. Edited by Lyle Fitch and Horace Taylor. Philadelphia, Blakiston Co., 1946. 463 pp. \$3.75.

The editors have brought together in summary form approximately 200 proposals and discussions from prize and non-prize essays submitted in the Pabst postwar employment essay contest. The proposals are presented aside from questions of their immediate practicability. Major topics include measures to promote private investment and consumption; fiscal programs and monetary reforms; measures dealing with the supply of labor and the labor market; and plans for "planning."

Fair practice in employment. By Frank P. Huddle. Washington (1013 Thirteenth Street NW.), Editorial Research Reports, 1946. 17 pp. (Vol. 1, 1946, No. 3.) \$1.

Takes up fair employment measures before Congress, wartime effort to curb work discriminations, conflict over anti-discrimination bills, and State legislation on fair employment practices.

Location and effects of wartime industrial expansion in Canada, 1939-44. Ottawa, Department of Reconstruction and Supply, Directorate of Economic Research, [1945?]. 65 pp., charts; mimeographed.

Detailed study of wartime industrial employment. Statistics are presented by industry and region.

Handicapped Workers

The physically impaired worker in industry. By Robert L. Brown, M.D., and R. L. C. Butsch. (In Industrial Medicine, Chicago, March 1946, pp. 188-192; forms. 50 cents.)

Statistical comparison of work stability of handicapped persons selectively placed by an aircraft plant, in 1944, with total persons hired that year. As measured by separations and reasons therefor, the impaired group had a better record, even with certain types of marked physical disability.

Physical capacity for work: Principles of industrial physiology and psychology related to the evaluation of the working capacity of the physically impaired. By Verne K. Harvey, M.D., and E. Parker Luongo, M.D. (In Occupational Medicine, Vol. 1, No. 1, American Medical Association, Chicago, January 1946, pp. 1-47. Also reprinted.)

A physical-capacity evaluation system, based on some of the principles discussed in this article, is now being developed by the United States Civil Service Commission with regard to the placement of the handicapped.

*Proceedings of the conference on selective placement of disabled veterans and other handicapped, * * ** Ann Arbor, Mich., May 28-June 1, 1945. Washington, U. S. Department of Labor, U. S. Employment Service, Veterans Employment Service, 1945. 146 pp.; processed.

Mill prepared in advance for return of its handicapped veterans. By J. Clark Samuel. (In Textile World, New York, February 1946, pp. 133, 135, 232. 25 cents.)

Describes the plan developed by Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co., which was based on experience with already-employed handicapped civilians.

The one-eyed worker. By Joseph Minton. (In Sight Saving Review, Vol. XV, No. 3, Philadelphia, fall 1945, pp. 161-166. 50 cents.)

Discussion of experience in Great Britain with employment of one-eyed workers, trades in which they were injured, and suitable employment.

Health and Medical Care

Costs of medical care of old-age and survivors insurance beneficiaries in St. Louis and 12 Ohio cities. By Lelia M. Easson. (In Social Security Bulletin, Federal Security Agency, Social Security Board, Washington, January 1946, pp. 16-21. 15 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.)

Expenditures for medical care averaged 6 percent of total income for aged couples surveyed in Ohio and 9 percent for those in St. Louis. Many of the aged beneficiaries worked during the survey year.

Summary report of the Ministry of Health, [Great Britain], for the year ended March 31, 1945. London 1945. 84 pp. (Cmd. 6710.) 1s. 3d. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Subjects surveyed include housing, national health service, national health insurance, and pensions.

Summary report by the Department of Health for Scotland for the year ended June 30, 1945. Edinburgh, 1945. 26 pp. (Cmd. 6661.) 6d. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, Edinburgh.

Covers operations of various health and welfare services. One section is devoted to housing, with particular reference to postwar plans.

Housing

Public housing: The work of the Federal Public Housing Authority. Washington, National Housing Agency, Federal Public Housing Authority, 1946. 45 pp., illus.

Description of the war housing program which provided shelter for at least 9 million persons, with discussion of postwar needs and problems in the low-rent field.

Urban housing survey. Philadelphia, Curtis Publishing Co., 1945. 70 pp., charts. Free.

Results of a national survey conducted in August 1944 covering the plans of consumers for home ownership and improvement, building, and appliances and housefurnishings. A section is devoted to industry problems and sales opportunities.

Your building code. By Miles L. Colean. New York, National Committee on Housing, Inc., 1946. 29 pp. 35 cents.

Examines the problems of building codes and suggests measures for modernizing the codes to facilitate residential and other construction.

Industrial Accidents and Workmen's Compensation

American standard method of compiling industrial injury rates, approved October 11, 1945. New York, American Standards Association, 1945. 10 pp. (Z16.1-1945.) 20 cents.

Revision of the "Method of compiling industrial injury rates," which was first approved by the American Standards Association in 1937. The principal revisions consist of changes in the definitions of "work injuries", and in the elimination of all references to workmen's compensation requirements for reporting injuries and to rulings as to disability by workmen's compensation agencies.

Summary and analysis of accidents on steam railways in the United States subject to the Interstate Commerce Act, calendar year 1944. Washington, U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of Transport Economics and Statistics, 1945. 118 pp. (Accident bull. No. 113.) 40 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Handbook of industrial safety standards. New York, Association of Casualty and Surety Executives, National Conservation Bureau, 1945. 212 pp., diagrams, illus. 7th revision.

State workmen's compensation legislation in 1945. Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1946. 8 pp. (Serial No. R. 1814; reprinted from Monthly Labor Review, January 1946.) Free.

Twenty-ninth annual report of the United States Employees' Compensation Commission, July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945. Washington, 1945. 47 pp. 15 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Report of operations under the several laws providing workmen's compensation for injury or death of persons engaged in employments coming under Federal jurisdiction.

Workmen's compensation pay lag study. (In Michigan Labor and Industry, State Department of Labor and Industry, Lansing, March 1946, pp. 4, 5.)

Statistical analysis of compensation cases closed during second half of 1945 by individual insurance companies and self-insured employers, showing the time lapse between onset of disability and beginning of compensation payments.

Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Diseases

Factory planning: Part 1, Some aspects affecting working conditions. Melbourne, Department of Labor and National Service, Industrial Welfare Division, 1945. 39 pp., illus. (Bull. No. 8.)

Hood and booth types available to solve typical ventilation problems. By Arthur C. Stern. (In Monthly Review of Division of Industrial Hygiene and Safety Standards, New York State Department of Labor, New York, January 1, 1946, pp. 1-4; diagrams.)

Occupational dermatoses: Disability and compensation. By C. Guy Lane, M.D. (In New England Journal of Medicine, Boston, Mass., December 13, 1945, pp. 711-715. 25 cents.)

Cites the official experience of New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and cases handled by a private insurance company.

Silicious exposures in the fire brick industry [in Kentucky]: I, Engineering study, by William W. Stalker; II, Roentgenologic study, by Wayne L. Ritter and Paul G. Bovard. (In Journal of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology, Baltimore, Md., December 1945, pp. 275-283; bibliography, chart. 75 cents.)

A comprehensive mental hygiene program at Caterpillar Tractor Co. By Harold A. Vonachen, M.D., and others. (In Industrial Medicine, Chicago, March 1946, pp. 179-184; bibliography. 50 cents.)

The technique of operations in a pioneer experiment is described.

Pour améliorer l'équipement sanitaire des lieux de travail. (In Revue du Travail, organe du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale de Belgique, Brussels, December 1945, pp. 809-811, 895-926.)

A note on the development of governmental regulation of industrial hygiene in Belgium, with short explanations of three decrees of October 18, 1945, of which the texts are given.

Industrial Relations

Industrial relations and the social order. By Wilbert E. Moore. New York, Macmillan Co., 1946. 555 pp., bibliographies, charts. \$4.

General text or handbook dealing with the organization of management and of labor, collective bargaining, industrial conflicts, and related subjects. The author emphasizes the fact that organizations of labor and management are parts of society; his point of view is primarily that of a sociologist.

The appropriate bargaining unit question under the Railway Labor Act. By Herbert R. Northrup. (In Quarterly Journal of Economics, Cambridge, Mass., February 1946, pp. 250-269. \$1.25.)

Collective bargaining agreements and change of ownership. (In Columbia Law Review, New York, March 1946, pp. 276-292. 85 cents.)

Trends in collective bargaining and union contracts. New York, National Industrial Conference Board, Inc., 1946. 83 pp., bibliography. (Studies in personnel policy No. 71.)

Provisions of 212 agreements in effect in 1945 are analyzed and typical agreements and sample clauses on various topics are reproduced.

A general study on leaves of absence for full-time union officers. By Mildred Gallo-way. Washington, National Federation of Telephone Workers, 1945. 94 pp., bibliography; mimeographed.

Brief discussion of union-agreement clauses providing leaves of absence for union officials, and a collection of relevant material obtained from the U. S. National War Labor Board, the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Bureau of National Affairs.

Industry Reports

Pennsylvania anthracite. By J. A. Corgan and M. I. Cooke. *Bituminous coal and lignite.* By W. H. Young, R. L. Anderson, L. H. Isaac. Washington, U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Mines, 1945. 37 and 86 pp., charts. (Preprints from Minerals yearbook, 1944.) 10 and 15 cents, respectively, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Reviews of the industries in 1944, with comparative data for earlier years, showing trends in statistical terms. Data on employment and productivity of labor are included.

Compensation and service of railroad employees—statistical tables, 1944. Chicago, U. S. Railroad Retirement Board, 1945. 196 pp.; processed.

The number of employees classified by amount of credited compensation and number of months of service in 1944 are tabulated for the following groups: All employees, and employees by class of employer; Class I railroad employees by occupational group; Class I railroad employees by occupation; Class I switching and terminal company employees by occupational group; Railway Express Agency employees by occupation; and Pullman Company employees by selected occupation.

Statistics of Class I motor carriers for the year ended December 31, 1943. Washington, U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of Transport Economics and Statistics, 1945. 89 pp. (Statement No. 4511.) 60 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Includes statistics showing the average number, total compensation, and average compensation of employees by class, district, and region for different types of Class I motor carriers.

International Labor Organization

The I. L. O. and the United Nations. Montreal, International Labor Office, 1946. 16 pp. Distributed in United States by Washington branch of I. L. O.

Third conference of American States members of the International Labor Organization, Mexico City, April 1946: Report I, Director's report; Report II, Vocational training; Report III, Labor inspection; Report IV, Industrial relations. Montreal, International Labor Office, 1946. Various pages. (First to fourth items on agenda.) Report I, \$1; Report II, 75 cents; Report III, 50 cents; Report IV, 60 cents. Distributed in United States by Washington branch of I. L. O.

Labor Unions and Conferences

Report of the World Trade Union Conference congress, Paris, September 25-October 8, 1945. [Paris, World Federation of Trade Unions, 1945?] 299 pp.

A brief account of the conference and of the organization of the World Federation of Trade Unions was published in the Monthly Labor Review for January 1946 (pp. 47-54) and reprinted as Bureau of Labor Statistics Serial No. R. 1816.

Directory of labor organizations in the Territory of Hawaii. Honolulu, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Bureau of Research and Statistics, March 1, 1946. 13 pp.; mimeographed.

Thirty-fourth annual report on labor organization in Canada (for the calendar year 1944). Ottawa, Department of Labor, 1946. 89 pp., charts. 25 cents.

Soviet trade-union functions and activities. By Germina Rabinowitch. (In American Review on the Soviet Union, New York, February 1946, pp. 3-16; bibliography. 65 cents.)

A short account of Soviet trade-union history and a description of the structure of Soviet labor organizations and of their activities, including participation in preparation of the fourth five-year plan.

The American foreman unionizes. By Ernest Dale. (In Journal of Business of the University of Chicago, Chicago, January 1946, pp. 25-30. \$1.25.)

Dues and initiation fees in labor unions. By Philip Taft. (In Quarterly Journal of Economics, Cambridge, Mass., February 1946, pp. 219-232. \$1.25.)

Occupations

Careers in personnel work. By D. M. Smythe, in collaboration with Vocational Guidance Research. New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., 1946. 253 pp., bibliography, illus. \$2.75.

Careers in social service. By Evelyn Steele and H. K. Blatt, in collaboration with Vocational Guidance Research. New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., 1946. 256 pp., bibliography, illus. \$2.75.

Establishing and operating a retail bakery. By M. L. Way. Washington, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 1946. 176 pp., plans, illus. (Industrial (small business) series, No. 29.) 35 cents, Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Job descriptions. New York, National Industrial Conference Board, Inc., 1946. 31 pp. (Studies in personnel policy, No. 72.)

Discusses the general principles involved in describing jobs, uses and advantages of job descriptions, and techniques of job analysis. An appendix gives representative job descriptions.

Old-Age Pensions

A retirement system for farmers. By Murray R. Benedict. Washington, National Planning Association, 1946. 43 pp. (Planning pamphlet No. 49.) 25 cents.

The economic status of farmers and farm workers and their need of protection are analyzed and the mounting Government expenditures for old-age assistance are noted. Inclusion of self-employed farmers, share croppers, and farm wage workers under liberalized Federal old-age and survivors' insurance (together with provision for total and permanent disability) is advocated. Apportionment of contributions and methods of administration are outlined.

Statutory provisions for State-wide retirement systems. Washington, National Education Association of the United States, 1946. 55 pp., map.

This analysis of teacher retirement systems has sections on financing, eligibility, benefits, and administration.

Fortieth annual report of Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1944-45. New York, 1945. 140 pp.

Includes data on grants by the Foundation for university and college retirement allowances and pensions.

Twenty-third annual report of the Board of Trustees, State Employees' Retirement System of New Jersey, [July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945]. Trenton, Board of Trustees of State Employees' Retirement System, [1945?]. 31 pp.

Rapport de la Caisse Nationale des Pensions pour Employés, [Belgium], sur les opérations pendant les années 1932 à 1944. (In *Revue du Travail*, Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale de Belgique, Brussels, January 1946, pp. 42-45.)

Personnel Management

Conversion problems in personnel management and union relations: Fourteenth conference proceedings, California Personnel Management Association, June 1945. San Francisco, California Personnel Management Association, 1945. 89 pp.; processed.

Manual of employment interviewing. New York, American Management Association, 1946. 75 pp., bibliography. (Research report No. 9.) \$2.25 to nonmembers.

Organization of personnel administration. New York, National Industrial Conference Board, Inc., 1946. 90 pp. (Studies in personnel policy, No. 73.)

Descriptions of personnel administration in each of 10 companies, which included a public utility, a department store, and multiple-unit manufacturing concerns.

Studies in supervision. Edited by D. Ewen Cameron, M.D., and H. Graham Ross, M.D. Montreal, McGill University, 1945. 149 pp., charts.

Eight lectures delivered at McGill University in the spring of 1945 are reproduced. Topics treated include friction points in industry, the mechanism of grievance, the industrial environment, and the contribution to effective supervision that can be made by the medical department.

Supervising people. By George D. Halsey. New York, Harper & Bros., 1946. 233 pp., bibliography. \$3.

Designed primarily for use by persons directly in charge of supervision of workers. The author emphasizes the development by supervisors of the personal qualifications essential to success in supervisory work.

The teacher looks at personnel administration. Washington, National Education Association of the United States, 1945. 53 pp. (Research bull., Vol. XXIII, No. 4.) 25 cents.

Sampling of the opinions of teachers on efficiency ratings, salary differentials, family allowances, married women teachers, sick leave, compulsory retirement, and other important personnel problems in the teaching profession.

Production and Productivity of Labor

Effectiveness of factory labor: South-North comparisons. By Richard A. Lester. (In *Journal of Political Economy*, Chicago, February 1946, pp. 60-75. Also reprinted.)

Based on the experience of about 40 interregional concerns, 10 industrial consulting firms, and 8 labor unions, the author concludes that a large and varied section of southern labor is equal in productivity to northern labor employed by the same companies or in the same industries.

Productivity changes in selected wartime shipbuilding programs. Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1946. 16 pp., charts. (Serial No. R. 1810; reprinted from *Monthly Labor Review*, December 1945.) Free.

Production in building and civil engineering. London, Ministry of Works, 1945. 13 pp., chart. 6d. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Deals with the analysis of man-hours and machine-hours expended in the execution of building and civil-engineering works in Great Britain.

The structure of British industry. By H. Leak and A. Maizels. (In *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, Vol. CVIII, parts I-II, London, 1945, pp. 142-199; discussion, pp. 199-207. 20s.)

Examination of concentration of production and employment, by industry, in Great Britain, based on information from the 1935 census of production.

Veterans' Affairs

Annual report of the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945. Washington, U. S. Veterans Administration, 1946. 142 pp. 25 cents (paper cover), Superintendent of Documents, Washington.

Shows the growth in the case load for medical treatment, pensions, and other forms of veterans' protection.

Disability benefits for discharged soldiers—law, regulation, and procedure. By Leo E. Fitzgibbons. (In Iowa Law Review, Iowa City, November 1945, pp. 1-36, \$1.50.)

General outline of the various benefits available to discharged soldiers in the event of disability, statutes and regulations making such provision, and procedure in obtaining benefits.

Postwar educational plans of soldiers. Washington, Army Service Forces, Information and Education Division, 1945. 11 pp.; processed. (Postwar plans of the soldier series, Report No. B-133.)

Surveys of educational plans of officers and enlisted men, made in 1944, indicate that about 8 percent of the Army's male personnel were definitely planning to return to full-time school after the war. Another 4 percent were considering returning to school.

Veterans' reemployment—statute and decisions. By Eugene F. Scoles. (In Iowa Law Review, Iowa City, January 1946, pp. 155-190. Reprints of article are available at 50 cents each.)

The author traces developments but states that the reemployment provisions of the Selective Service Act have not received a "complete or even substantial court construction."

Bibliography on veterans' affairs. Salt Lake City, Utah, Army Service Forces, Headquarters Ninth Service Command, Civilian Personnel Division, 1945. 8 pp.; mimeographed.

References to material on reemployment, training, and other phases of the reestablishment of returning veterans.

Dismiss, but what of a job? How the Dominion Department of Labor plans to help in the reestablishment of the members of the armed forces. Ottawa, Department of Labor, 1945. 50 pp.

Training for a job: Facilities available under rehabilitation [in New Zealand]. Wellington, Rehabilitation Department, 1945. 28 pp., illus. (Rehabilitating you, No. 2.)

Wages and Hours of Labor

Wage structure: Electroplating and polishing, 1945; Fabricated structural steel, 1945; Machine tools, 1945. Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1946. 32, 31, 44 pp.; mimeographed. Free.

The wages of farm and factory laborers, 1914-44. By Daniel J. Ahearn, Jr. New York, Columbia University Press, 1945. 245 pp., bibliography, charts. \$3.

The author estimates from fragmentary data that wage rates of unskilled factory laborers in the United States increased 200 percent from 1914 to 1939, while farm wage rates per day without board rose only 9 percent. The wage trends of farm and factory workers are traced during inflation and deflation, 1914-22; recovery and stability, 1922-29; and depression and revival, 1929-44. Money and real annual earnings, production, and productivity of farm and factory workers are also analyzed.

Police salaries in Baltimore and other large cities. Baltimore, Md., Commission on Governmental Efficiency & Economy, Inc., 1945. 13 pp.; mimeographed. (Your tax dollar, No. 324.)

Salary figures for Baltimore represent the maxima actually paid, and for the 15 other cities having populations of 450,000 or more, covered in the report, the maximum base salaries plus cost-of-living salary increases and wartime bonuses. Information is also given on working hours, vacations, sick leave, medical care, pensions, and other relevant subjects.

Government policy on price and wage control in the transition period [in Canada]. Ottawa, Edmond Cloutier, 1946. 14 pp.

Statements by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Labor of Canada.

Wages and hours in the primary textiles industry in Canada, 1944. Ottawa, Department of Labor, 1946. 21 pp. (Supplement to Labor Gazette, February 1946.)

Annual report of Waterfront Control Commission, New Zealand, and statement of accounts for year ended March 31, 1945. Wellington, 1945. 89 pp. 1s. 9d. Includes data on wages and hours of union waterside workers.

Arbeidslønninger i industrien, 1942. Oslo, Statistisk Sentralbyrå, 1945. 57 pp. (Norges offisielle statistikk X, 79.)

Cites hourly earnings in industry and at hand work in Norway, by year, 1935-42, and by quarter, 1941-42.

General Reports

L'émigration saisonnière des ouvriers belges vers la France. (In Revue du Travail, organe du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale de Belgique, Brussels, April-May 1945, pp. 194-196; map.)

Includes statistics of Belgian workers leaving Belgium, via Tourcoing, to work in sugar, distillery, and other industries in various regions of France, 1934-44.

Employment, wages, hours of labor, cost of living, and trade disputes [in Great Britain] in 1945. (In Ministry of Labor Gazette, London, January 1946, pp. 2-6. 6d. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.)

Monthly Digest of Statistics, No. 1. London, Central Statistical Office, January 1946. 95 pp. Annual subscription £1 12s. 6d. net, including postage; single copy, 2s. 6d. net, His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

A new monthly publication bringing together in summary form statistics showing changes in economic activity in Great Britain. The statistics are presented in the form of time series, figures being given, as far as possible, for each calendar year, 1935-44, and monthly for 1944 and 1945. Data on employment, wages, and prices are included.

A supplementary pamphlet (31 pp., 6d. net) gives definitions of items and units employed in the Monthly Digest of Statistics.

Economics of postwar India. By S. K. Muranjan. Bombay, Hind Kitabs, 1945. 98 pp. Rs. 3-8.

Italy: Vital, economic, and financial statistics, 1935-45. (In Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, League of Nations, Economic Intelligence Service, Geneva, December 1945, pp. 375-387. 45 cents.)

Includes statistics of production in agriculture, 1939-45; of certain agricultural prices, 1938-39 to 1945-46; and of foodstuff rations, 1940-43.

Rapports des inspecteurs fédéraux des fabriques sur l'exercice de leurs fonctions pendant l'année 1944 et rapport du médecin du travail de l'Office Fédéral de l'Industrie, des Arts et Métiers et du Travail pour la période de 1942 à 1944. Berne, Département Fédéral de l'Économie Publique, 1945. 196 pp., maps, plans, illus.

Reports of four Swiss Federal factory inspectors for 1944, and a report (1942-44) of the medical officer attached to the Federal Office of Industry, Trade, and Labor, with statistical tables on permits for prolongation of the workday and penalties imposed for infractions of factory labor laws. Includes also data from the Federal census of factories of September 14, 1944, showing number of factories and number of workers (male and female) by canton.

Extracto estadístico del Peru, 1943. Lima, Ministerio de Hacienda y Comercio, Dirección Nacional de Estadística, [1945?]. cxliv, 734 pp., charts.

Gives data on persons employed, unemployed, and covered by social-security regulations; wholesale and retail prices (indexes); cost-of-living (indexes); number of workers, hours of work, and wages in selected industries; and industrial accidents.